Sommaire

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Arizona – Level 1 and 2

Arizona | Barbecue



Des amis se retrouvent pour faire un barbecue en Arizona. En attendant le repas, ils se reposent et discutent.

- Here are the drinks, guys. Enjoy!
- Thank you!
- Hi, Melissa! Hi, Greg! How are you?
- Hi, Jimmy! We're fine, how about you?
- I am great. This is my **girlfriend**, Luisa.
- Hello! Nice to meet you!
- Nice to meet you, too. Where are you from?
- I am from Montana.
- Oh, Montana is beautiful!
- Where are Carey and Mike?
- Carey is at home. She's **sick**. She's in bed. And Mike is a **workaholic**. He's in the office.
- **Crazy**. What would you like?
- I'd like an **orange juice**.
- And a margarita for me, please.
- OK.
- What is that?
- It is **salsa**. And here are the chips.
- Oh, wonderful, I love chips and salsa. I am so hungry! Are you hungry?
- Yes. I am ready for a steak or hamburger.
- The steaks and burgers are ready, folks!

girlfriend: *petite amie*
sick: *malade*
workaholic: *bourreau de travail*
crazy: *fou*
juice: *jus*
salsa: *sauce tomate piquante*

Arizona | Tombstone



Dans cette scène à suspense, les familles Clanton et Earp s'affrontent pour la dernière fois. Wyatt Earp, le shérif de Silverstone, défend sa ville contre l'attaque de Ike Clanton et Billy the Kid.

- Everything in Tombstone is **calm** and **quiet**.
- Only on Main Street, there are **voices** ...
- Wyatt, where are you? I know that you're here!
- Who are you? And what do you want?
- You know me. And you know my friends.
- He thinks he's clever. Where do you come from? And what's your name?
- My name is Ike Clanton. And I come from the town of Silverstone. **Does that ring a bell**?
- **Outlaws** are not welcome in our town. And my men and I protect the people of Tombstone. Get the hell out of here!
- Why is your arm in your jacket? Better **watch out**! I hope you can see my **gun**!
- I tell people only once that they're not welcome here. Are you ready, Doc?
- Yeah.
- Here's what you want! Are you **satisfied** now?

quiet: *tranquille*
voice: *voix*
Does that ring a bell?: *ça te dit quelque chose ?*
outlaw: *bandit*
to watch out: *faire attention*
gun: *arme*

Arizona | Sun City



Homer et Marge quittent Indianapolis pour se rendre à Sun City et y passer leur retraite au soleil. Homer a un peu le cœur lourd, tandis que Marge cherche à le réconforter en énumérant les avantages de Sun City.

- Well Marge, what do you think of our new car?
- Oh, come on, these cars are not that bad. In fact they are perfect for driving around Sun City. They aren't **expensive**, and they have **air conditioning**.
- Ha ha! Very funny. I still miss my Corvette! That was a real driving machine!
- Look, Homer, your Corvette is not here! People don't **roar around** Sun City in fancy sports cars! In fact, nobody here has a Corvette! We left Indianapolis to relax in the nice warm weather. We're **senior citizens** now. This car is perfect for our life in Sun City. At least it's a **convertible**!
- You're right, you're right! The car is cheap, it's also safe and I just love it!
- Who are our neighbors?
- Their names are Betty and Fred. They're from Rhode Island. It's their first year in Arizona.
- What do they do here?
- Betty is a singer in the church choir. And her sister is the flute player. And Fred likes to **garden**.
- Oh, that's fun! You know, Sun City is a great community. Our house is nice and also our swimming pool. And we're together and we're **healthy** ...
- Yes, and I'm a race car driver! Where's the freeway? Now, I know what that **sign** means!

expensive: *cher*
to roar around: *sillonner en voiture*
senior citizen: *retraité*
convertible: *cabriolet*
to garden: *faire du jardinage*
healthy: *en bonne santé*
sign: *panneau*

Arizona | Birthday party



Sara et son ami veulent organiser un anniversaire surprise pour Jerry. Ils discutent pour savoir qui pourra venir. La liste est longue et la fête sera sûrement réussie.

- Hi, Sara. I don't have much time. Can we talk about Jerry's surprise birthday party?
- Yes, I have my notes here. This is the information that I have **so far**. A total of twenty people are on the list. Fifteen people are coming to the party. The other five are sad to miss the surprise, but they can't make it.
- What about Jerry's **aunt**? The one who is always sick?
- Aunt Mildred? She is usually sleepy not sick.
- Right, but you know who I'm talking about.
- No, she can't come. She is staying in Phoenix. Her daughter Kate is coming and bringing a friend. Jerry's Aunt Maria won't be there. But her husband is coming anyway.
- What about Jerry's brother and his sisters?
- Jerry's brother David is coming. He was very happy to get the **invitation**. He and his wife are driving from Tucson. Jerry's sisters are calling tonight to give me an answer.
- What about ...
- **Hold on**, I'm making a note about the sisters.
- Sorry. So who else is coming?
- Five of Jerry's friends are **joining us**. They are all bringing food.
- Great! That means less work for us. I apologize, but I have to go now. I have a meeting.
- Call me tonight so that we can finish planning everything.

so far: *jusqu'à maintenant*
aunt: *tante*
Hold on: *attends*
to join sb: *se joindre à quelqu'un*

New York – Level 1 and 2

New York | Cab drivers



Un chauffeur de taxi débute à NY et se renseigne auprès d'un de ses collègues sur les curiosités de la ville. Celui-ci lui explique tout ce qu'il faut savoir pour réussir à NY.

- Hey **Buddy**, do you have a minute?
- Sure. **What's up**?
- This is my first week in New York and I need some information. Can I ask you some **questions**?
- Go ahead.
- People from other countries ask me so many questions. And I don't know the answers. And I always try to help. It helps when they think about my **tip**. My question is: Which is the highest **building** in town?
- The Empire State Building is the highest building in town. But the highest building in the world is the Sears Tower in Chicago.
- Many tourists ask me where they can find a nice hotel. Do you know any nice hotels?
- Yeah. There are a lot of nice hotels in town. Some are nicer than others. But the nicest hotel is a hotel called 'Garden of Eden'. I know that it is the nicest hotel in town. My brother is the **owner**. It is on 147th Street. Tell your customers they can go there.
- Oh, I understand. Are there any funny **sights** in town?
- The funniest building is the Flatiron Building on Broadway. I don't know any funnier buildings. My father says that it is the funniest building in town. And he is a tour guide. By the way, he's a good tour guide. The name of the tour is 'Eddy's tour'.
- Here's another question: Can you tell me the shortest way from Manhattan to JFK?
- Sure I can, man. There is a short way. But I always take the longest way. The tourists don't know the short way and you can make more money on the long way. Do you understand?

---

buddy: *mec (fam.)*
What's up?: *Qu'est-ce qu'il y a ?*
tip: *pourboire*
building: *immeuble*
owner: *propriétaire*
sights: *attractions touristiques*

New York | Chinatown



Mary veut acheter des fruits et légumes. Chez Dave, le marchand des quatre-saisons, elle va trouver tout ce dont elle a besoin.

- Hi.
- May I help you?
- Do you have **parsley**?
- No, I'm sorry, I don't have any parsley today.
- Is the **garlic** fresh?
- Of course. I can assure you that all of my fruits and **vegetables** are fresh. The garlic is from New Mexico and it's only $1.25 per pound today.
- Good. I will have half a pound of garlic then. Could you give me 4 or 5 large **bulbs**, please?
- Sure.
- Is that **spinach**?
- Yes.
- Where does it come from this time of the year?
- It's from Georgia. Would you like some?
- Yes. One pound, please.
- You can go ahead and **choose** your own. Shall I give you a bag?
- Sure.
- Would you hand me the bag, please?
- Do you have any sweet apples?
- These apples here are sweet.
- Would you give me three pounds, please?
- Yes.
- How long do they stay **juicy**?
- You must not keep them in a warm place. I can't guarantee that they stay juicy then. But in the **refrigerator** they should stay fresh for a couple of weeks.
- Good. I think that's it for now.
- That comes to $2.75. Out of three ... here's a quarter as your change. Thank you very much. Have a nice day!
- Thank you. Bye-bye.

parsley: *persil*
garlic: *ail*
vegetables: *légumes*
bulb: *gousse*
spinach: *épinard*
to choose: *choisir*
juicy: *juteux*

New York | Stranger in New York



Une touriste cherche l'Empire State Building et s'adresse à un passant. Celui-ci la renseigne et lui donne deux ou trois conseils utiles.

- Excuse me, can you tell me where the Empire State Building is?
- Oh, sure. You're not from here, are you?
- No, I'm from Idaho. I'm here for the weekend only.
- Oh, really? Let me see your map. We are here at the **corner** of Broadway and 47th Street. The Empire State Building is at Fifth Avenue and 34th Street. Just walk **along** 47th Street this way and **turn** right into Fifth Avenue after two blocks. Walk down Fifth Avenue past the Public Library until you reach 34th Street. The Empire State Building is the building to your right and the **main entrance** is on Fifth Avenue.
- Great. Are there any other places I should go to?
- Oh, yes. There are a lot of interesting places in New York. The Guggenheim Museum and the Metropolitan Museum are just as interesting as the Empire State Building. But the most interesting place for me is Ellis Island.
- How do I get to Ellis Island?
- Take a cab to Battery Park. The **ferry terminal** is right at the end of the **parking lot**. Just buy a ticket to Ellis Island there and ask for the schedule.
- Do you get a good view of Manhattan from the ferry?
- You do. But you get the most fascinating view of the Manhattan skyline from the Staten Island Ferry. And the **view** of Miss Liberty is as fascinating as the view of Manhattan. And it's even better and also more spectacular at sundown.
- Well, thanks a lot. I really **appreciate** your help. Is that your dog? He's **cute**.
- Yes. His name is Woodrow.
- Hi, Woodrow, you're a good dog. Thanks, again.
- You're very welcome.
- Bye-bye.
- Bye now. Enjoy New York!

corner: *coin*
along: *le long de*
to turn: *tourner*
main entrance: *entrée principale*

ferry terminal: *embarcadère*
parking lot: *place de parking*
view: *vue*
cute: *mignon*

New York | Hot dog stand



Chaque jour, Dennis se laisse tenter par un hot-dog au snack de Doug. Aujourd'hui encore, il n'a pas pu résister !

- Hi Doug, how are you today?
- Hi Dennis! How are you doing? Are you ready for a snack?
- I'm starving. Can I have a **pretzel** please?
- Sure. Can I get you anything else?
- Well, I'm pretty hungry, and those hot dogs there in front of me look really good.
- Maybe I should get something to eat for later. Yeah. Give me one of those hot dogs too!
- No problem. But the hot dogs are in the **oven**. Just a minute, okay?
- Great. Nothing tastes better than a fresh hot dog, on a nice hot **bun**! You know, I think I **walk past** your stand almost every day.
- Hey, you're one of my best customers! That's why I always have fresh hot dogs whenever you come by.
- Well I love fresh hot dogs! That's why I always buy one when I walk past!
- Ah! I think they're done now! Are you ready for one the best hot dogs of all time?
- Am I ever! Hey, where's the ketchup, anyway?
- It's over there, behind the soda.
- Great! I love to have lots of ketchup on my hot dogs! And the **mustard**? Ah! There it is, next to the ketchup!
- Do you want **relish** on your hot dog too?
- No thanks. But I do want something to drink.
- The soda is right there in front of you. Can I put all of this into a **bag** for you?

- Sure. Can you put a **straw** for my coke, and a **napkin** in there too, please?
- Of course. How is your wife by the way? Tell her hello for me.
- Certainly! How much do I **owe** you?
- That will be seven dollars and seventy-five cents please.
- Here you go. Thanks. Have a great day!
- Thanks. See you tomorrow!

pretzel: *bretzel*
oven: *four*
bun: *petit pain*
to walk past: *passer devant*
relish: *condiment*
bag: *sac*
straw: *paille*
napkin: *serviette*
to owe sb sth: *devoir qqch à qqn*

Atlanta – Level 3

Atlanta I Coca-Cola



Malcolm et Robert sont tous deux guides dans une usine Coca-Cola. Ils se racontent leur journée et leur week-end. Pour se détendre et rester en forme, ils se donnent rendez-vous au squash.

- Hi, Malcolm, how was your day?
- Oh, it was pretty **boring**. Just **a couple of** families and a group of 15 school kids. But those kids were unbelievable! They asked me for one **cup** of **soda** after the other. Each kid managed to drink more soda than all the other people together.
- Wow! That's more than I drink in one year! But I could use a cup right now!
- How was your weekend?
- Oh, it was fun! My wife and I rented an **RV** and we stayed at the beach for two days. The weather was not so good. But we enjoyed the beach just the same. What did you do?
- We stayed in town. My parents were here from Louisiana. And, believe it or not, my dad wanted to tour Coca-Cola. So, I showed him around on Saturday.
- Must be nice to work on Saturdays! And, did he like it?

- Yeah. He liked it. He especially loved the free soda.
- Of course. Say, do you want to play squash tonight?
- Yes. Sounds great. I feel a little rusty. Usually, I play squash every week. But last week I was sick. I only played two weeks ago.
- What's a good time for you?
- Hmh. How about seven thirty?
- That's fine with me! Let's meet at the courts.
- All right. See you then!
- **See you!**

boring: *ennuyeux*
a couple of: *quelques*
cup: *verre*
RV (recreational vehicle): *camping-car*
See you!: *à plus tard !*

Atlanta | Farmers Market



Meg et Bill tiennent un magasin de légumes à Atlanta. Meg est plutôt maladroite, ce qui lui vaut quelques problèmes… Mais Dieu soit loué, Bill se montre très compréhensif !

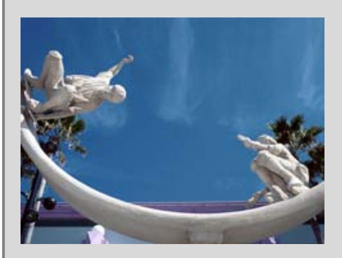
- Meg, **what's the matter** with you?
- Oh, nothing!
- The last time when you **denied** that there was something wrong with you, you **lied**.
- Well, to be honest, I just **tripped**.
- So what?
- Well, I stepped into a **crate** of tomatoes.
- Is that all?
- No, this morning I tried to **drag** a sack of potatoes into the store.
- You 'dragged' a sack of potatoes into the store? And what happened?
- I didn't **tie** the sack **up** and the potatoes rolled down the street.
- You look like you want to tell me something else?!
- Uh, I'm sorry, but I dropped the crate with the **pumpkins** this afternoon. They're all **crushed**.
- So am I. I assume there was nothing left to sell? At least we have enough pumpkin purée and **smashed** tomatoes for a pumpkin pie and a tomato soup. We just

don't have any potatoes for dinner! You're such a great help!

What's the matter?: *Que se passe-t-il ?*
to deny sth: *nier qqch*
to lie: *mentir*

to trip: *trébucher*
crate: *cageot*
to drag: *traîner*
to tie sth up: *attacher qqch*
pumpkin: *potiron*
crushed: *écrasé*
smashed: *abîmé*

Atlanta | In the park



Suzy fait du roller et Brad du skateboard. Ils font connaissance lors d'un entraînement. Deviendront-ils amis malgré leurs différences ?

■ Hey, watch out! Don't **crash** into me!

■ Why do you think I am going to crash? You skateboarders are all the same!

■ Oh yeah? Well, at least I don't need to wear **gloves** anymore!

■ My mom made me wear the gloves, and she bought me this shirt too.

■ Yeah, my mom told me what to wear this morning too, but I just waited for her to leave and then got dressed.

■ Did she let you try on the clothes before she bought them? Last week my mom came home with these terrible wool **pants** that I hated.

■ Haha! That's really funny! I bet you looked great! So what's your name anyway?

■ My name's Suzy. What's yours?

■ I'm Brad!

■ Are you new here?

■ Well, not really. My mom just doesn't let me go skateboarding much. She doesn't like the **clothes** I wear. She **acts like** she is with the fashion police sometimes.

■ Most of the time, I have to wear a **suit and tie** when I go to school.

■ Wow! You wear a suit and tie to school? I bet you look really silly!

- What about you? Do you wear a skirt and blouse?
- No, my mom lets me wear what I want. Usually I only wear jeans and a T-shirt. She is just worried about me because in-line skating is a little dangerous.
- And she likes to buy clothes on sale. I told you, she brought home some really ugly things!
- Where does she go shopping, anyway?
- Well, sometimes we go to nice department stores, but usually we go where clothes are really cheap!
- I think it is nice to wear **fashionable** clothes that you like! We always go shopping at the most expensive shops in town!
- Clothes shopping with my mom means you just take whatever fits.
- Hey! My mom is going to be really mad if you crash into me and I get a **hole** in my pants!
- I told you, I am not going to crash into you. You just watch out for yourself! Skateboarders are really all alike!

---

to crash: *rentrer dans quelqu'un, entrer en collision*
gloves: *gants*
pants: *pantalon*
clothes: *vêtements*
to act like: *faire comme si*
suit and tie: *costume et cravate*
fashionable: *à la mode*
hole: *trou*

Atlanta I Cyclorama



Cathy et ses parents visitent Cyclorama, le musée de la guerre de Sécession. Celui-ci doit son nom à l'immense tableau qu'il abrite et qui reproduit la bataille d'Atlanta.

- You see, Cathy, they call this museum the Cyclorama because of the big round **painting**, 'The Battle of Atlanta', we just looked at. It also has objects from the Civil War.
- Did you know that it is also the world's largest painting?
- This **map** shows the history of the Civil War. This was the largest, most deadly and most expensive war of the 19th century. The Civil War was the first modern war, and it was the first war in history with iron **warships**, and the first in

which the **railroad** played an important role.

- This train is called 'Texas' and it is more than 150 years old. It was used during the Civil War. It's too bad that we can't get closer to it. It is a **steam locomotive**. People had to heat the water with coal to make steam. Can you see where the **smokestack** is?
- After we finish looking at the **exhibition**, we can go to the gift shop where you can pick out a model train to take home. It will remind you of your trip to the museum.
- Even though you will learn about this in school, it's fun and interesting to be able to see it in a museum.
- And here you don't have to listen to a boring teacher talk all day long! You know, honey, there is a lot to learn in this museum. Maybe we should take a **guided tour**.
- Maybe you're right. There must be a guided tour. I can walk over to the entrance and see when it begins.
- I asked about a guided tour at visitors information. They told me that the next one begins in one hour. We can look at a couple more **exhibits** until then.
- That sounds fine. By the way, can you tell us something about this here?
- Actually, this is a new exhibit. I am afraid I can't tell you much about it! But it sure looks interesting. Do you see that there? What do you think that might be?
- Well, it has to have something to do with the train. The sign there says it is also from the 19th century, but it doesn't say what it is. They really should put better signs on the exhibits. But we can ask our tour guide when he comes.
- Look over here! That is really interesting. These are some of the things that people found at the **battlefield**, and then **donated** to the museum. Many of the soldiers used their own weapons in the Civil War and this is one of the oldest. I think this is one of the most interesting pieces in this museum. You know, after we leave the museum, we can go look at the battlefield too. Somebody told me that if we are lucky, we can still find old **bullets** from the Civil War. We should go start our tour now. I think your mother is already waiting for us over there.

---

painting: *tableau*
map: *carte*
warship: *navire de guerre*
railroad: *chemin de fer*
steam locomotive: *locomotive à vapeur*
smokestack: *cheminée*
exhibition: *exposition*
guided tour: *visite guidée*
exhibit: *objet exposé*
battlefield: *champ de bataille*
bullet: *balle*

Florida – Level 3

Florida | Hemingway



Ernesto, propriétaire d'un bar en Floride explique à ses clients d'où vient son surnom. A quelle célébrité ressemble-t-il ?

- Ernesto, buddy, give me another beer.
- Sure, man.
- Ernesto? Why do they call you Ernesto?
- Oh, you haven't yet heard the story?
- Which story?
- You know, I have been a **bartender** in this bar for almost 10 years now. And it has become a **common** thing that people look at me and take pictures of me. At first, I **wondered why**. Until I asked somebody.
- What is the **secret**?
- It has turned out that I had a famous **twin brother**. I'm sure that you know him.
- Who's that?
- Well, he has earned world-wide fame through his books. He also lived in Key West for quite a while.
- Oh, now I understand. You mean Hemingway. Have you read his books?
- No, I've heard that they're OK but I don't care for books myself. However, I've come to like him because his books and his looks have brought me cash.
- How is that?
- I have studied his life just a little bit and I've learned to make myself look like him. Now, I mix the famous Hemingway daiquiri and tell people about 'my' life. And it works - they like it and they come back.
- Cool. I could use that in my business. Who do I look like?
- Hmh, let's see, maybe Bud Spencer?

---

bartender: *barman*
common: *courant*
to wonder why: *se demander pourquoi*
twin brother: *frère jumeau*

Florida | Gatorland



Dans le sud de la Floride, John et Martha visitent une ferme d'alligators. John n'est pas très à l'aise mais Martha est plus courageuse..

- Are you sure you want to go in there?
- Yes. Besides, I have heard that they have a souvenir store in there. And I've always dreamt of a **genuine** alligator **leather purse**.
- But you know that I'm not particularly **fond** of reptiles.
- Oh, don't be a **coward**! They're behind **fences** anyway!
- All right. Somebody has to take the pictures anyway ...
- Wow! This one looks like it's just **swallowed** a cow. Have you already taken a picture of him?
- Sure. I've never seen one that fat! They've probably just had their lunch.
- Look. This one hasn't had lunch yet.
- I've never been that glad to be behind a fence in my whole life!
- Oh my God! Look at that! Have you ever seen that many alligators in one spot? I'm glad I don't have to walk through there. Looks like hell to me!
- They're **huge**. They must be very old. I've heard that an alligator grows only one inch per year. That means that these boys are not babies any more! Are you ready to go to the souvenir store now?
- Now that I've seen how long it takes an alligator to grow ... I don't think I still want an alligator leather purse.

genuine: *véritable*
leather purse: *sac à main en cuir*
to be fond of sb or sth: *aimer particulièrement qqch ou qqn*
coward: *poltron*
fence: *clôture*
to swallow sth: *avaler qqch*
huge: *énorme*

Florida | Golfing



Liz et Lucy s'entraînent au golf, mais non sans encombre. Il faut d'abord comprendre comment fonctionne le kart et surtout savoir se concentrer.

- Hey, Lucy, do you know how these cars work? It's not an **automatic car**, it's a **standard**. I've never driven a standard.
- No, dear, I don't know how it works. I've never driven one myself. But there are some instructions on the **steering wheel**.
- OK, turn the **ignition key**, shift into the lowest gear and go! Hooray! It works!
- Drive slowly, Liz, I don't want to crash into another car! Oh, Liz, please stop, the golf clubs are about to fall out.
- Have you stowed them properly? I don't want to lose them. We need all the golf clubs to win.
- I don't think that we have a chance anyway. I know, it's ladies' day but there are so many young women who play golf so ambitiously. And they play several times a week.
- But we've played golf for so many years ourselves. We have much more experience. Experience mostly beats age! Don't worry.
- All right, Lucy, you have to **stroke** this one very carefully. We're way behind anyway and this is our last chance.
- I've played brilliantly so far, but don't put pressure on me. I have to concentrate on this stroke. And you can easily distract me.
- Come on, you can do it! OOPS! Where did the ball go? Certainly not where you intended it to go!
- I'm afraid that was it. Oh, shoot! We definitely didn't win this round. Maybe next year. The young women grow older, too.

---

automatic car: *boîte automatique*
standard (car): *boîte de vitesses*
steering wheel: *volant*
ignition key: *clé de contact*
stroke: *donner un coup*

Florida | At the wharf



Pour initier Susan aux plaisirs de la pêche, Larry lui donne quelques conseils avant de partir.

- Larry, do you think Susan is ready for take-off?
- I don't know. She's on the rear deck. Just a minute. Hey, Sue, have you checked out the fishing **equipment**?
- I believe I don't need to tell you that I don't know much about fishing. And I'm afraid I've completely **messed up** this stuff.
- Doesn't matter. That's what we're here for. Let me fix this.
- Do you want to stay out on the water long today?
- I want to stay out there longer than the last time. At least long enough to catch a blue marlin or a tuna. The earlier we get out there the better. This time we've prepared the equipment more carefully than the last time. I hope that fish doesn't get away again.
- What can I do to help you?
- You can bring us beer and put sun lotion on our backs.
- Is that all? I don't intend to be your personal servant all day. I prefer to do some 'real' work.
- There's another **fishing pole** for you. You can try to catch a fish yourself. Once the fish is on the **hook**, you can start to **reel in** the line very slowly. No, no, not that fast! You have to do it a lot more slowly. Otherwise the fish starts to fight. And then they sometimes get off the hook. Yes, that's much better. You're in for a big one.
- Sure, man. I want to catch Moby Dick.

---

check out: *vérifier*
to mess up sth: *mettre qqch en désordre*
fishing pole: *canne à pêche*
hook: *hameçon*
to reel in: *enrouler, ramener*

Los Angeles – Level 4

Los Angeles l Charlie Chaplin



Dans les rues de Los Angeles, Brian un peu naïf, est victime de la caméra cachée de Charlie Chaplin. Pense t-il vraiment qu'il va devenir un grand acteur ?

- Hello, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to our Candid Camera show in Los Angeles. I am trying to **hire** people as actors in a new movie and ... here comes a **prospective victim**. Excuse me, sir, do you have a minute? We are looking for people who would like to **take part** in a new movie. You look like the perfect candidate. Would you like to become an actor?
- What? An actor? **You're kidding**! Are you sure you're talking to the right person?
- I'm absolutely sure I'm talking to the right person. You're exactly the right person for the movie. Here's a **description** of the movie and the address of the studio.
- What's the movie about?
- It's about this man who is a little naive and doesn't realize that other people are **making fun of** him all the time.
- Who else is acting in the movie?
- Many famous stars like Josie Forester and Anthony Husky.
- Great! I made it! Jerry, somebody has finally **discovered** me!

---

to hire sb: *recruter qqn*
prospective: *éventuel*
to take part: *participer*
You're kidding!: *Vous plaisantez !*
to make fun of sb: *se moquer de qqn*
to discover: *découvrir*

Los Angeles | Walk of Fame



Comme tant de jeunes filles à Hollywood Claudia rêve de devenir actrice. Jodie lui demande de raconter comment s'est passé son casting. Mais Claudia n'est pas vraiment satisfaite de sa prestation.

- Was your **screen test successful**?
- It was interesting, but I don't think it was successful. They promised to call me.
- What did you have to do?
- When I arrived the secretary was collecting the **résumés**. And the manager was handing out some forms for the **applicants** to fill in. While the other girls were **auditioning**, I sat in the **waiting room** and went over my scene again.
- Were you nervous?
- Sure. It was terrible. I sat there **shaking like a leaf**. And when they finally called me in, my feet were feeling numb. It was awful.
- How did they like your **performance**?
- The performance? When I walked onto the stage, they were still talking about the last girl. They let me wait for a couple of minutes. Then they told me to dance to the music the pianist was playing. Dance! It had nothing to do with my scene. They just ignored my scene!
- Oh, don't **despair**. All famous stars had to go through some sort of **disappointment** at the beginning of their career.
- Except for this guy here. Maybe it helps to put our hands into his prints?

---

screen test: *bout d'essai*
successful: *couronné de succès*
résumé: *CV*
applicant: *candidat*
to audition: *passer une audition*
waiting room: *salle d'attente*
to shake like a leaf: *trembler comme une feuille*
performance: *interprétation*
to despair: *désespérer*
disappointment: *déception*

Los Angeles | Wellness



Holly et Kayla font du jogging à Los Angeles. Holly aimerait bien perdre du poids mais elle n'y arrive pas. Kayla se permet de lui donner quelques conseils.

- Oh, Kayla, do you have an idea what else I can do to reduce my weight?
- What's the matter? You're trying to **lose weight**?
- Yeah. I'm trying. But I haven't been successful yet. I've tried about everything in the last couple of weeks. But it's almost ineffective. I just don't lose any weight.
- What have you tried out so far?
- I've been running daily for months. I've been going to the **health club** for two months now, and it shows no result. And I've been dieting for weeks. **It's a pain**.
- And you haven't had any hunger attacks?
- Only a terrible **craving** for hot dogs. But I haven't eaten any junk food since that party at Silvia's.
- Have you been drinking enough water and have you been taking the necessary vitamins and minerals?
- Sure. I can't think of anything I haven't done.
- Maybe you're not **working out** hard enough. Do you know that you have to keep your heart rate above 120 for at least 20 minutes in order to burn fat?
- Of course I know. But I have the impression that I've been **gaining weight** instead of losing it since I've started my wellness program.
- Well, then there's only one other reason I can think of. Are you sure you're not **pregnant**?
- Kayla?!

to lose weight: *perdre du poids*
health club: *club de gym*
It's a pain: *c'est énervant*
craving: *faim de loup*
to work out: *s'entraîner*
to gain weight: *prendre du poids*
pregnant: *enceinte*

Las Vegas – Level 4

Las Vegas I Graceland



Pourquoi Las Vegas est-elle si connue ? Pour ses mariages et ses casinos. Dans cette scène émouvante, Harry épouse la femme de sa vie et lui réserve une belle surprise à la fin de la cérémonie.

- Here comes the **bride**!
- Oh, she's so beautiful!
- Dear Marianne, dear Harry, we're **gathered** here to **join you two in holy matrimony**. And so I ask you, Marianne: Will you take this man to be your wedded **husband**? Will you love him and honor him?
- Harry, I will love you and **honor** you and be a good wife.
- Dear Harry, will you take Marianne to be your lawfully wedded **wife**? Will you love her and respect her and take care of her in good times as in bad?
- Marianne, I will love you and respect you and take care of you as long as I live. I will never leave you alone, and I will always buy you what you desire.
- Oh, Harry!
- I **declare you husband and wife**. But before you leave, we'll hear your favorite song.
- This is my present for you, my sweet little wife. I hope you'll enjoy the music.
- Oh, Harry, that's so sweet.
- Love me **tender** ... love me true ... Congratulations, Ma'am!

---

bride: *mariée*
gathered: *rassemblé*
to be joined in holy matrimony: *être uni par les liens du mariage*
husband: *mari*
to honor: *honorer*
wife: *femme*
to declare a couple husband and wife: *declarer un couple mari et femme*
tender: *tendrement*

Las Vegas | Casino



C'est le jour de chance de Rachel. Elle explique à Frank ce qu'elle compte faire avec tout cet argent. Mais Franck a d'autres projets pour elle.

- Oh, this is fun! I've won again.
- It's unbelievable. You're a lucky one. What are you going to do with all the money you won yesterday and today?
- I'm going to buy a new car. My car is old and **rusty**. And then I'm going to **travel** to Australia. I've already bought the ticket.
- What are you going to do in Australia?
- I don't know yet. I'll **probably go scuba diving** or **hiking** or maybe both. Now that I have the money ...
- How much longer are you going to be in Las Vegas?
- Another two days. I'm leaving for Australia on Monday.
- Did you know that they're having a special here tomorrow? They're going to double the money you win. I hope I'll see you here tomorrow.
- I don't know. I probably won't **gamble** any more. I don't want to **lose** all the money again.
- Oh come on! Just a few games. You won't lose all the money in one or two hours. It will be nice to see you again before you leave.
- All right. I'll see you tomorrow then.
- Is she going to come again tomorrow?
- Yes, I **convinced** her to come again. I hope we'll get some of the money back ...

rusty: *rouillé*
to travel: *faire un voyage*
scuba diving: *plongée sous-marine*
to go hiking: *faire de la randonnée*
to gamble: *jouer (de l'argent)*
to lose: *perdre*
to convince: *convaincre*

Las Vegas | Truck stop



Truman et Ramona sont conducteurs de poids lourds. Ils se rencontrent sur une aire d'autoroute et parlent de leur trajet.

- Hi, Truman, good to see you!
- Ramona! How are you doing?
- Where are you going? On your way to L.A.?
- No, this time I'm driving down to San Diego. I've got a **load** of **frozen** chicken for them down there. Do you have any time for a coffee, **gal**?
- No, I'm leaving in a couple of minutes. They're just **checking** my **tires**. As soon as they're done I'm out of here. I'm **on my way** to San Francisco.
- Are you driving up Route 99?
- No, I heard there's an **accident** between Bakersfield and Delano. The police has closed the whole road in both directions. Which road are you taking?
- I don't know yet. It **depends on the traffic**. It's Memorial Day weekend and it seems that the whole world is on the road.
- Yeah, I've noticed that. But I'm not driving the whole way today. I've decided to stay in Barstow overnight. My sister lives there and I haven't seen her for 3 years.
- I have to get my **stuff** to San Diego today. And I'm picking up another load tomorrow.
- You're pretty busy. Well, see you later and good luck for your trip.

load: *chargement*
frozen: *congelé*
gal: *fillette*
to check: *contrôler*
tire: *pneu*
on my way: *sur la route*
to depend on the traffic: *dépendre de la circulation*
stuff: *cargaison*

Chicago – Level 5

Chicago | Street musicians



Depuis des années, Archie joue de la musique dans la rue. Il vient de découvrir le talent musical de son fils et raconte à Bub ce qui s'est passé.

- Hey, Archie, how's the business going out here?
- Hey, man, not so bad. I just **discovered** my son's talent yesterday.
- What do you mean? His musical talent?
- Sure. He's cool, man. I now have a real partner.
- How that? I didn't know that your kid has learned to play an instrument.
- He hasn't. But yesterday, just when I had **unpacked** my instrument, I had to go back to the car. Benny was playing and the radio was on. When I came back from the car I couldn't believe my eyes. He had taken my saxophone and was **pretending** to play the music he heard on the radio.
- And, had he made any money?
- The people had already left about 30 **bucks** in his little hat. And there was still a **crowd** standing around him. After I had **collected** the money, I joined him. After we'd played for an hour, we had enough money for the whole week.
- **From rags to riches**, huh?
- You never know!

---

to discover: *découvrir*
to unpack: *déballer*
to pretend: *faire semblant*
buck: *dollar*
crowd: *foule*
to collect: *rassembler*
from rags to riches: *une ascension spectaculaire*

Chicago | Al Capone



Al Capone fut très populaire à Chicago en dépit de ses nombreux crimes. Chris en sait long sur le plus célèbre gangster de tous les temps. Il raconte à son amie...

- ■ Do you know anything about Al Capone and **Prohibition**?
- ■ Well, when you live in the **Second City** you learn about Al Capone and his gang in school.
- ■ Tell me more about him.
- ■ He seems to have been the boss in town. Al Capone lived from 1899 until 1947. He **became famous** during Prohibition. When the police finally caught him, he had been illegally selling liquor for years.
- ■ But he probably didn't just sell liquor, did he?
- ■ No, you're right. His gang had been fighting another gang in town for years until the Valentine's Day Massacre happened in 1929. They killed many people. This must be the car he had been driving before the police **arrested** him.
- ■ What was so spectacular about the liquor?
- ■ The law didn't allow people to sell or drink liquor. It was hard to get liquor. But there were certain places where you could get some. And insiders knew where those places were.
- ■ How long did it take the police to arrest him?
- ■ When the police finally arrested him he had been hiding from them for years. He had always escaped. But, they finally **caught him red-handed**.
- ■ The people must have hated him.
- ■ Oh, no, the people from Chicago didn't really hate Scarface. Can you imagine going into a bar on a Saturday night and not being allowed to have a drink?

Prohibition: *prohibition*
Second City: *surnom de Chicago*
to become famous: *devenir célèbre*
to be caught red-handed: *être pris la main dans le sac*

Chicago | Architects



Steven et Mark sont tous deux architectes et plein d'imagination pour moderniser Chicago. Encore faudrait-il qu'ils aient un emploi pour mettre leurs idées en pratique...

- This is the **building** I had been trying to buy for years before they told me it was sold. I had already planned the renovation and reconstruction works in detail. And then the city sold it to somebody else. The architect who is doing the work now is not even from the Second City.
- It's not fair. Why don't they give a young architect a chance? Do you think you can get another building here in the **Loop**?
- It's not easy for a young and fairly **unknown** architect. Once you've done one building it isn't a problem any more. But before that they **distrust** you.
- What are you going to do now?
- I don't know. There are several other projects I'm interested in. Once I've finished the project I'm doing now, I'll send out **applications**. I hope I'll get a job although there aren't many jobs **available**.
- Yeah. It's not easy. I hope you'll find an interesting job.
- I might have to **create** my own job. Don't you think that that building over there needs some renewal?

---

building: *immeuble*
Loop: *quartier des affaires à Chicago*
unknown: *inconnu*
to distrust: *se méfier de*
application: *candidature*
available: *disponible*
to create: *créer*

New Orleans – Level 5

New Orleans I Garden District



Un couple visite une très belle maison victorienne. L'achèteront-ils, malgré les gros travaux de rénovation nécessaires ?

- This beautiful old Victorian house is for sale. At the moment a couple is looking at the house. Maybe they will buy it.
- This house was built in 1875 in the Victorian style. Many houses like this can be seen all over New Orleans and especially in the Garden District.
- Yes, it is very nice. I really like the big windows and the **fancy** wooden door!
- This house is **considered** to be the oldest in the neighborhood, and it is one of my favorites. We're really lucky it is for sale!
- Why would anyone sell such a beautiful old house?
- I am told that the **landlady** does not have any family. The extra rooms are **rented** to students. But now she is too old to do much housework, and she wants to lead a quiet life.
- The neighbor said that the students don't help at all in the household. The **laundry** is **piling up** in the **hallway**, dishes are left in the **sink** and the floor is never **swept**.
- I don't mind a little dust, as long as the house is kept in good condition. Does the house have a garage and a **basement**?
- It is hard to see the garage from here, but it is behind the **porch**, next to the stairs over there. I understand that the basement was **converted** into another bedroom.
- Oh great, so that room could be rented out too! Shall we take a closer look? This doesn't look good here! What are these holes in the wood made by? I hope the house is not being eaten by termites!
- No, I was **assured** that there are no termites, but the house does need to be worked on. As I said, the landlady is very old now and she doesn't have any help.

- Yes, I can see that the house hasn't been worked on for years. This house could really use a fresh **coat of paint**! Even though the wood here on the porch is in bad shape and the house needs to be painted, the walls and windows seem to be in good shape. I love these old crystal windows! You don't see them very often these days.
- And they just need to be washed. The walls need to be painted too. I think the house needs a lot of work, but most of that can be done by us on the weekends.
- I really like the big balcony too! Just imagine having a nice Sunday brunch up there.
- I could spend the whole day up there relaxing and reading a book! But first, a lot of work must be done. And in the winter we can sit by the **fireplace**. Do you see the **chimney** up there on the **roof**? I'm sure it just needs to be swept, then it will be in perfect shape.
- The rooms get a lot of sun. I can't imagine that they need to be heated much. Do the rooms upstairs have a fireplace too?
- The **master bedroom** upstairs has a fireplace, but the other rooms don't. What do you think? I really like this house a lot, even though it needs to be worked on.
- Yes, but can we do all that work? We hardly have any free time.
- I think it can be done! I really love this place too ... why don't we **make an offer**?
- Yes. Where there's a will, there's a way!

---

fancy: *original*
landlady: *propriétaire*
to rent: *louer*
laundry: *linge sale*
to pile up: *s'empiler*
hallway: *vestibule*
sink: *évier*
to sweep: *balayer*
basement: *sous-sol*
porch: *véranda*
to convert: *transformer*
to assure: *assurer*
coat of paint: *couche de peinture*
fireplace: *cheminée*
roof: *toit*
master bedroom: *grande chambre*
to make an offer: *faire une offre*

New Orleans I The riverboat



Le capitaine a fait réparer son bateau, il est désormais prêt à reprendre le large. Il se réjouit à l'idée d'accueillir de nombreux touristes.

- Hey, Zac, the boat looks great now.
- Yeah, Bob, they did a great job. It was painted and repaired last week. The decks were cleaned. They hadn't seen any **soap** for years. But now it's ready for the summer season.
- Yeah. It's a **pleasure** to look at the boat now. Did you hear that a new member of the **crew** was hired yesterday?
- Who is he? Do I know him?
- I don't think so. He worked on the Delta Queen before he was **hired** by our boss. I don't know him myself. But I was told that he's a nice guy.
- That's good. We definitely need another hand on board. Is the trip sold out today?
- I'm not sure but I think so. Most of the tickets were sold to a group of Japanese.
- All right. We'll take the **scenic route** then so that they can take as many pictures as they want to. Was the souvenir store **stocked up** with the miniature boats?
- I'll check that. Is there anything else we need for today's trip?
- Do we have a **translator** on board? The only Japanese words I know are: 'hai, arigato'. That's **probably** not enough.

soap: *savon*
pleasure: *plaisir*
crew: *équipage*
to hire: *recruter*
scenic route: *route panoramique*
to stock up: *remplir*
translator: *traducteur*
probably: *probablement*

New Orleans | All that jazz



Preservation Hall est un haut-lieu du jazz, mondialement connu. Ces deux inconditionnels du jazz le savent bien et ils se réjouissent d'y aller.

- Do you think we'll **get in** this time? I'm tired of **standing in line**.
- I don't know. But it's a nice evening and **I don't mind this**.
- Do you know when the Preservation Hall was built?
- No, I only know that it has been used for decades. It has become an institution, and is said to be the place with the most traditional jazz music. After it had been built, jazz musicians came together here to play jazz music. Here, the more traditional jazz players finally had a place where they could perform. The traditional jazz was not only born in New Orleans, it has also been **preserved** here.
- But that's not the only use of the Preservation Hall. It has become a tourist attraction. People don't only go there for the music.
- But I do. I love jazz. It **reminds** me of the good old times. Do you remember all the famous songs ...?
- I do. Which one's your favorite?
- My favorite has always been 'When the Saints go marching in ...'. It has been played by the most **renowned** musicians. There are thousands of versions and I love every single one.
- Oh, **it's our turn**! But if you prefer to sing out here, we could **save** the money ...

to get in: *rentrer*
to stand in line: *faire la queue*
I don't mind this: *ça ne me derange pas*
to preserve: *preserver, maintenir*
to remind sb of sth: *rappeler qqch à qqn*
renowned: *célèbre*
It's our turn: *c'est notre tour*
to save: *economiser*

New Orleans | Pat O'Brian's



Un groupe d'amis se retrouve chez Pat O'Brian's, un café très connu à la Nouvelle Orléans. Les cocktails sont à consommer… avec modération !

- Pat O'Brian's is a local **hot spot**.
- Hey, will the Hurricane be your **beverage** of choice tonight?
- Just like always! I have already ordered.
- Here is your order. Let me know if you need anything else.
- Thank you.
- That is your favorite drink, isn't it?
- Yes! And soon it will be made the most popular drink in town by loyal customers like myself. I can see it now. Great distances will be traveled by people who want to try it.
- Oh, really? Are you certain of this?
- The Hurricane is great. **In no time flat**, it will be made famous. And this small, local bar will be transformed into a popular tourist attraction.
- Before you know it, O'Brian's will be **overrun** by tourists who read about it in their guide books. The place will always be filled with happy Hurricane drinkers.
- Exactly! Hurricanes will be known everywhere. And the competition will be **forced out** of business!
- Then we will never be able to get a table when we want one. And the prices will be pushed higher than ever before.
- Yeah, but look at the positive side. Amazing drinks will be created and made available for your nightly enjoyment! Sweet or sour, garnished with pineapple or cherries, Pat O'Brian's drinks will keep customers coming back again and again!

---

hot spot: *endroit à la mode*
beverage: *boisson*
in no time flat: *en un rien de temps*
overrun: *rempli*
to force out: *chasser*

San Francisco – Level 6

San Francisco | Cable Car



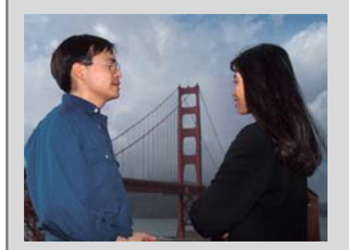
Ça y est ! Ken et Patty ont enfin trouvé une place dans le funiculaire. Pendant le trajet, ils passent en revue toutes les choses indispensables pour une randonnée. Ken est très prévoyant en ce qui concerne les moustiques !

- Oh no, there's a long line. Do you think we'll get a seat?
- If we don't get one, we'll have to walk.
- We just made it. It feels good to sit. We've been running around all day.
- What else do we need for our **hike** on the weekend?
- Let's see. We'll need a cap and **rain wear** if it rains. If the sun's out, we'll probably need **insect repellent**.
- Insect repellent? Patty, are you saying that there are going to be **mosquitoes**? I don't want to go there if there's one single mosquito on that trail!
- Oh, Ken, come on, that's ridiculous! Do you want to stay at home just because there's a chance of one or two mosquito **bites**?
- Sure. How can I enjoy a hike if I have to defend myself against mosquitoes all the time?
- I'll tell you what: I've hiked at the El Capitan every year for the last 5 years. And I'm still alive. The mosquitoes are not going to eat you. Are you sure you don't want to go?
- The last time you said there weren't any mosquitoes I was covered with bites when we got home. And each time you had a different excuse. What will be your excuse this time?
- No more excuses. I'll buy you a beer if you come home with more than 5 bites. Okay? Besides, if you'll wear these new sunglasses the mosquitoes won't see you anyway!
- You mean like this? They're cool, aren't they?

---

hike: *randonnée*
rain wear: *vêtement de pluie*
insect repellent: *produits contre les moustiques*
mosquito: *moustique*
bite: *piqûre*

New Orleans I Pat O'Brian's



Chang et Kim adorent San Francisco. Cependant Chang a une nouvelle proposition d'emploi à Boston qu'il ne peut pas refuser. Kim est bien sûr moins enthousiaste. Que vont-ils décider ?

- If we stayed in San Francisco, I'd be so much happier. I love it here.
- I do too. I could imagine staying here forever, if my job were more interesting. But if I took the job in Boston, I would **earn** twice as much as I do now.
- I know. And the **cost of living** there is lower too.
- Could you be happy in a new city without a job?
- No.
- If you got a job in Boston, would you **consider** moving? Would you think about it?
- I have worked hard at my company. I don't see it as a job. It's my profession, and you know I take it seriously.
- So you wouldn't leave even if you had a job in Boston?
- I have told you before that I like my job, and don't see why we have to **move** across the country. Can't you find a new job here? If you had a better job here, we wouldn't have to move.
- If I had a better job here, I would also be a lot happier. I need to change jobs now. I can't stay where I am any longer. Shall I take the job in Boston, and then keep looking for another **position** here?
- No. Can't you find a job here that's in middle management? It will be easier to find a new job in San Francisco if you stay here. That way we can both stay in the city we love.

to earn: *gagner*
cost of living: *coût de la vie*
to consider: *penser à, réfléchir à*
to move: *déménager*
position: *poste*

San Francisco | Napa Valley



John propriétaire d'un vignoble à Napa Valley, livre ses secrets pour produire un vin de qualité.

- All right, guys, this is what you have to do. You make sure the plants are cut the right way. You know, if it hadn't rained that much in the spring we wouldn't have had to **prune** the **grapevines** that early. But with all the **moisture**, the plants grow a lot faster.
- Why do the grapevines have to be pruned so carefully?
- If the grapevines are pruned, the limited number of grapes get more water and more **nourishment**. If the grapevines are not pruned, you get more grapes, but the grapes are not as good.
- So the quality of the grapes is **crucial**?
- Yes, and unless it rains too much, we'll have a good **yield** this year.

  But if it rains much more, the soil will be **saturated** and the grapes will start to **rot**.
- That means that they need an exact amount of water: not too much and not too little.
- Exactly. Last year we would have lost all the grapes if the rain hadn't stopped in time. It was close.
- **Provided that** there's enough but not too much rain, will the wine then automatically be good?
- Oh, no. It takes much more than that to make a good wine. The **vinification** is the most important part of the wine making. But the time of the harvest and the storage of the wine are important, too, as well as the use of pesticides.
- So that's what's in the **tank**?
- What did you think? We don't run around and catch the **bugs** with our hands. It's hard enough to apply this stuff to the grapevines. Fortunately, somebody invented these small tractors. Let's go boys! This looks like a good wine year for California!

---

to prune: *tailler*
grapevine: *vigne*
moisture: *humidité*
nourishment: *éléments nutritifs*

---

crucial: *fondamental*
yield: *récolte*
saturated: *saturé d'eau*
to rot: *pourrir*

provided that: *à condition que*
vinification: *vinification*
tank: *réservoir*
bug: *parasite*

Hawaii – Level 6

Hawaii | Hula show



Des touristes assistent au „Hula Show“, le spectacle de tradition hawaïenne. Mais de quoi s’agit-il exactement ? La meilleure façon de le savoir est d’y participer.

- My **guide book** gave us good directions! We got here right on time.
- It's good that you brought that book along. It has really helped us. What does the guide book say about the actual show?
- The book says that this is one of the most popular hula shows in all of Hawaii. Well then, let's go find our seats. I want to be able to see what's going on.
- You go ahead. I want to look at some of those stands over there. They must be selling some interesting things. Look at all the people. I really hope that I have chosen the best **necklaces**. The guide book says that coral jewelry can be found in many places in Hawaii. Now we can look for our seats. That sign says we need to go in this direction.
- And look, the ladies are just ahead of us looking for the right row.
- It feels good to sit down after such a long day. Look at the stage. It's starting. What does the word 'Hawaii' mean anyway?
- Well, my book says that 'Hawaii' is a Polynesian word meaning 'homeland'. And those beautiful, colorful **dresses** are called 'holokus'. Aren't they pretty?
- Sssshhhhh!
- They were first used here on the islands in the 1800's. How interesting! The book says that the dresses were **introduced** by missionaries from New England.

The book also notes that hula was originally a religious dance form. And then it says that **hand motions** are used in contemporary hula to tell stories about the islands. Those skirts are more traditional, **according to** the book. They are short and made of grass.

- Excuse me, please **quit** talking!
- Come on! Before you get us in **trouble**, let's go dance. This is fun! How do I look?
- Just great, honey.

guide book: *guide touristique*
necklace: *collier*
dress: *robe*
island: *île*
hand motion: *geste*
according to: *d'après*
to quit sth: *cesser de faire qqch*
trouble: *ennuis*

Hawaii | Windsurfing



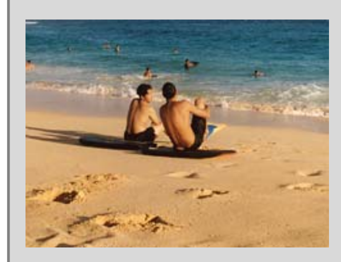
Quelques surfeurs à la plage. L'un d'entre eux prétend être le meilleur… Rira bien qui rira le dernier !

- Hi. Nice **board**. Are you going out?
- Yes, I am. I'm going to show my friends how to windsurf.
- The wind is pretty **nasty**. Do you think you'll manage?
- Oh, I don't mind strong winds. I'm an **experienced** windsurfer. I actually love nasty winds. I've been to places where the wind and the **waves** were a lot nastier than here.
- Well, have fun!
- Thanks. See you later.
- Who's that guy in the black suit? He doesn't seem to be very successful. It's taken him ten minutes to get on his board and pull the sail out of the water.
- I think he's having problems with the wind. I told him that the wind was pretty nasty. But he didn't care. He said he was an experienced windsurfer. And he said he was going to show his friends how to windsurf.

- Oh, no, he almost **crashed into** that other guy. He certainly doesn't look like an experienced windsurfer!
- At least he said that he had been to places where the winds and the waves had been a lot nastier than here.
- OOPS! That wave just blew him off the board again! I can't believe it. The wind is perfect and the waves are great.
- He said he didn't mind strong winds, he actually loved them. But he can hardly stay on the board.
- Maybe he learned windsurfing in a swimming pool.
- Well, he seems to be a Mr. **Bigmouth**.
- I just talked to the **lifeguard**. He's expecting a storm within the next hour. Let's put our equipment in the car.
- Let's hurry! I can't wait to see how Mr. Bigmouth manages the storm!

board: *planche*
nasty: *mauvais*
experienced: *expérimenté*
wave: *vague*
to crash into sth: *entrer en collision avec qqn*
bigmouth: *frimeur (fam.)*
lifeguard: *maître nageur*

Hawaii | Boogie boarders



Quelques amis se retrouvent sur la plage. L'un d'entre eux raconte son rendez-vous de la veille qui ne s'est pas déroulé comme il l'avait prévu...

- What about your **date** last night? How did it go?
- Well, Meg had told me that she might not be able to come to the **beach** club. But eventually, she did come.
- Cool. Wow, that's a big one! And Sean missed it! But tell me more about your date!
- I asked her if she wanted to dance. But she said she couldn't because she had **hurt** her foot on the boogie board that morning. So we just hung around and talked.
- Look, Sam's **giving it another shot**. **Awesome**! And did you ...?
- Oh, no, I **put away one drink after the other** since she didn't

want to dance. And when I asked her if she wanted to go somewhere else, she said she didn't. So I just kept drinking. I guess you can imagine what happened. I was pretty **smashed** after a couple of hours.

- Oh, there are Andy and Mike. Hey Andy, you look like you've had it, too.
- Man, I'm **starving**. Can we go and get something to eat?
- Good idea. We're just waiting for Mike.
- Hey, Chuckie, was a no show last night, was it?
- No, she did come, but she was **fed up with** me after a while, called me a **jerk** and told me to get lost. But I had a great time anyway. And there was that other girl ...
- There's one. But what's Sean doing? That jerk lost his boogie board! I told him to hold on tight to his board! Let's go!
- Yeah, I could really use something to eat. And Luke asked if we would meet him at Suzie's at 5 o'clock, so we'd better get going.

---

date: *rendez-vous*
beach: *plage*
to hurt: *se blesser*
to give it another shot: *refaire une tentative*
Awesome!: *impressionnant !*
to put away one drink after another: *s'enfiler un verre après un autre*
smashed: *ivre*
starving: *affamé*
to be fed up with sb: *en avoir marre de qqch*
jerk: *idiot*

Boston – Level 7

Boston | Plymouth



Adam et Mary fêtent l'arrivée du Mayflower à Plymouth. Pour l'occasion, ils ont revêtu des costumes traditionnels. Mary aimerait parler sérieusement de leur relation mais Adam a plutôt envie de s'amuser.

- ■ What are your plans?
- ■ We have the possibility to build a new life together here in New England. You can make me your husband in three months and have three children, one next year in 1621, one in 1623 and one in 1625.
- ■ Adam, I am your wife and we're in the 1990's and I'm talking to you **seriously**. What **plans** do you have concerning jobs?
- ■ I am thinking about developing the **ship-building** industry in Plymouth with a group of friends. These are hard times but we are making sacrifices.
- ■ What are you talking about?
- ■ We are putting our heads together to get ideas and not to make the same **mistakes** as in England. William is planning to do something in textiles and I want to build modern ships like the Mayflower.
- ■ You're not giving me a **straight answer**.
- ■ What's wrong? Now we're living this side of the Atlantic, we are starting to organize our new life.
- ■ I'm tired, I want to sit down, and I'm not in the **mood** to listen to this. I just want to know when you're changing jobs.
- ■ I want to have a job where I'm miles away from you, that's all.
- ■ Ha, ha. Make an effort to please me today for once. It's our special day and we're having dinner somewhere nice tonight, so phone Madeleine to ask her to babysit for us tonight.

- OK. Steve is coming with us. He's really nice.
- What!? This is our romantic evening, just the two of us!
- All good things are three!

seriously: *sérieusement*
plan: *projet*
ship-building: *construction navale*
mistake: *erreur*
straight answer: *réponse raisonnable*
mood: *humeur*

Boston | Harvard



Sur le campus de la plus prestigieuse université des Etats-Unis les discussions sont loin d'être seulement intellectuelles...

- I want another pizza.
- What? How many pizzas are you going to eat?
- You **eat like a horse**!
- Be careful, you're going to **get fat** one day.
- No I'm not. But I need **sustenance**. How do you expect me to think and develop my mind if I don't have enough food? An outstanding **academic record** demands a lot of energy.
- Who do you think you are, Einstein?
- No, but **let's face it**, we are the elite of America.
- Ah, come off it!
- This place was founded in 1636 and has seen the greatest people pass through here since then. Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt were here for instance, and JFK.
- It doesn't mean you have to **pig out** on pizza all the time.
- It's a free country, and if I want another pizza, I'll have one.
- Well I'm not having any more. I have to watch my weight.
- **You're fishing for compliments**. You just want everyone to say what a nice body you have and how beautiful you are.
- Well at least it's true, and I'm prepared to make compliments as long as they're true.

- You just like having lots of women around you. **You've got a one-track mind**. But it's not by being **slimy** that you're going to get anyone.
- He's not slimy, he's galant and charming as well as **hunky** and manly.
- Right, well you both seem to have found the right person!
- Yeah, George is a real cutie!
- Give us a kiss.
- God, this is sickening!
- If you played more sports instead of reading, you'd have nice muscly arms like this.
- Don't tell me you only go for the inner qualities.
- Not only, of course not. Anyway, I'm getting a pizza.
- Actually, if you're getting one, perhaps I'll have one too!

to eat like a horse: *manger comme quatre, se goinfrer*
to get fat: *grossir*
sustenance: *nourriture*
academic record: *résultat scolaire*
let's face it: *regardons les choses en face*
to pig out: *se gaver de*
to be fishing for compliments: *rechercher les compliments*
to have a one-track mind: *avoir une idée fixe*
slimy: *mielleux*
hunky: *bel homme*

Boston | Boston Tea Party



Le 16 décembre 1773, les habitants de Boston jetaient des cargaisons entières de thé dans le port. Mais quelles étaient les raisons de ce mouvement de protestation ?

- It was on December 16th, 1773 that people threw whole shiploads of tea into the **harbor**.
- Why exactly did they do that?
- It was to protest against the **taxes** and the complete **ban** the British had imposed on trade with other countries.
- What did that **achieve**?
- I don't know what the immediate effect of it was. But the delegates of all the colonies except Georgia met in Philadelphia and agreed to break off all **trade relations** with Britain.

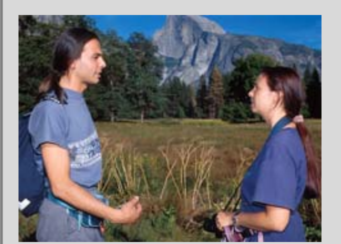
- I guess it's famous because it represented a deterioration in relations.
- And from then on there was no stopping the anti-British feeling.
- Was there any point where the British were **on the verge of** winning in the War of Independence?
- They won some battles, but perhaps it was inevitable that they would lose in the end.
- Washington received the support of the French as well, didn't he?
- Yes. France recognized the independence of the thirteen colonies and fought alongside them.
- And, later, the leaders of the French Revolution got a lot of their ideas from the Americans.
- Boston was a center of revolutionary activity. At that time it was one of the largest towns here, but not any more of course.
- No, it's nothing **compared to** New York, L.A. or Chicago. It's hard to imagine living in those days.
- It must have been fun **chucking** all that tea into the water!
- I don't even like tea, so I certainly wouldn't have minded.
- Don't you ever drink tea?
- Only at Chinese restaurants sometimes. What do you think about Anglo-American relations **nowadays**?
- Well, they're very good because of the historic **links**, the language, where people come from ...
- History has actually brought them close together.
- Well, the English like to talk about the 'special relationship' they think they have with the US. But **obviously** the English have interests elsewhere just like the Americans.
- I think the past is more or less irrelevant. You have to look forward.
- Yep. This is the age of international **unions** and organizations and agreements.
- Do you think that will make things better?
- Well, the Brits, for example, are still often a little bit reserved about the EU. But all these unions can only be a step in the right direction.

---

harbor: *port*
tax: *impôt*
ban: *interdiction*
to achieve: *obtenir*
trade relations: *relations commerciales*
to be on the verge of sth: *être sur le point de*
compared to: *comparé à*
to chuck: *jeter, balancer*
nowadays: *actuellement*
link: *lien*
obviously: *manifestement*
union: *alliance*

Canyonland – Level 8

Canyonland I Yosemite



Deux randonneurs se rencontrent dans le parc national Yosemite: Tony qui connaît très bien les environs raconte à Stacey tout ce qu'il y a à y découvrir.

- I've just seen Mono Lake, which isn't far from here.
- Oh yeah, it's beautiful. An **alkaline** lake of volcanic origin.
- You're a bit of an expert, are you?
- No, just a bit of a **show-off**!
- Apparently, the whole ecosystem of the lake is **threatened** by the water consumption of L.A. and the **surroundings**.
- I hope it won't be **destroyed**.
- This water problem exists in quite a few states. It's become a **valuable** product. Can you tell me something about Yosemite?
- Sure. I come here almost every year. It's a fantastic place in all seasons. You can visit Yosemite Valley all year, although Tioga Road through the High Sierra is closed in winter.
- They told me to reserve **accommodation** a long time in advance, especially for between June and September.
- Well it's extremely popular. I think over 4 million visitors come here every year. They want to see the **chipmunks** and the bears, the two hundred species of bird, the reptiles.
- And I know a lot go free climbing here.
- Yes, especially up the Half Dome and El Capitán on the west corner. It's called the Half Dome because of its shape obviously.
- And that's El Capitán there, isn't it?
- That's right. What made you decide to come here?
- There's a famous photographer called Ansel Adams who took breathtaking pictures of this national park. I then wanted to **capture** the spirit of the place myself and see the granite **rock faces** and the nearly vertical waterfalls with my own eyes.
- Have you seen the **redwoods** in Mariposa Grove?

- Yeah. They're amazing! It's hard to believe trees can grow to that height.
- There's one which is 64 metres high, 9 metres in **diameter** at the base of the trunk and has two-meter-thick branches! Not surprisingly, it's called the Giant Grizzly. Yosemite is the Indian word for the grizzly bear. Did you know that?
- No I didn't. But I've seen one.
- Here?
- No, in a zoo once!
- It's quite an impressive animal.
- One swipe of its paw and you're gone!

alkaline: *alcalin*
show-off: *m'as-tu-vu*
threatened: *menacé*
surroundings: *environs*
to destroy: *détruire*
valuable: *précieux*
accommodation: *logement*
chipmunk: *tamia (petit écureuil)*
to capture sth: *saisir qqch*
rock face: *paroi rocheuse*
redwood: *séquoia*
diameter: *diamètre*

Canyonland I Bryce Canyon



Steve et Jane se promènent dans le Bryce Canyon. Selon une légende indienne, les esprits se réveillent quand il y a trop de bruit. Prudence !

- Phew! I'm hot!
- So am I. Let's have a drink.
- Well, it's hot now, but **it's supposed to** get very cool at night.
- It's something like two and a half thousand meters above **sea level**.
- Look at these strange **semicircular bays**.
- I suppose it's the erosion that does that.
- It's funny how nature creates all these spectacular shapes.
- Yes. You talk of the seven wonders of the world but there are hundreds of natural and man-made wonders in the world.
- I think it would be difficult for me to pick out the best seven!
- Anyway, this is definitely wonderful!
- It's **worth the effort**.

- Well it wasn't that much of an effort. We did take the Navajo **Trail**, which is only 2.2 miles long.
- Yes, it's a good deal shorter than the Rim Trail or Peekaboo Trail. They're 5.5 miles long.
- That's not too far either, is it?
- I'm not very fit at the moment, I know, but it's because of the heat as well.
- But the short trails are enough just to get a good quick view of the landscape.
- Ooooohhh!!
- Sshh! You're not supposed to shout like that! You'll wake up the old Indian spirits.
- Oh, don't **talk crap**!
- Come on, keep going!
- I like the pinky-red color of the landscape here.
- Yeah, it's lovely.
- I think you're going to turn more than pinky-red!
- Never mind that! Who was Bryce anyway?
- I read he tried to **raise cattle** here.
- Maybe he was one of the Mormons. They were the first white **settlers** here.
- I don't know. But I know his forename was Ebenezer. Awful name, don't you think?

---

it's supposed to: *il est censé…*
sea level: *niveau de la mer*
semicircular: *en demi-cercle*
bay: *baie*
to be worth the effort: *valoir la peine*
trail: *sentier de randonnée*
to talk crap: *dire des conneries*
to raise cattle: *élever du bétail*
settler: *colon*

Canyonland | Grand Canyon



On dit que le Grand Canyon est l'un des plus beaux et des plus impressionnants canyons au monde. Ce ranger donne des informations détaillées à une touriste et ne se lasse pas de vanter la beauté du lieu.

- Have tourists been coming here for a long time?
- The first hotel was built at Grand View Point in 1892. And it was **founded** as a national park in 1919. People have been coming here **ever since**.
- How long have you been a park ranger?
- I've been doing this job for over ten years now.
- And you don't **get tired of it**?
- Tired? Not really. Well, of course, every job has its routine.
- But where are you going to get **scenery** like this and be able to **admire** it every day?
- It gets too hot in the middle of the summer. That's one **drawback**.
- How big is it?
- In miles or kilometers?
- Kilometers, it's more normal for me.
- Four thousand nine hundred and thirty four square kilometers. That's larger than Yosemite and much bigger than Bryce Canyon.
- You couldn't fit too many of these in Europe! Do you ever have any major problems? Do accidents happen?
- No, just the odd **sprained ankle**, of course, like anywhere! But when people go off on their own, they sometimes overdo it a little bit. And you have to be careful. This is **rattlesnake** country, and they're pretty dangerous.
- Ooh ... they can give you a nasty bite!
- You can fly through the canyon in a helicopter or plane if you want. Are you going to do that?
- Yeah, we might do that later. I wouldn't mind trying a little white water rafting, too.
- Yeah, if you like getting wet you can take a raft down the Colorado River.
- I've never been on the **rapids** before. It's going to be quite an experience.
- Try not to fall in! Come on.

to found sth: *créer*
ever since: *depuis*
to get tired of sth: *être las de qqch*
scenery: *paysage*

to admire sth: *admirer qqch*
drawback: *inconvénient*
sprained ankle: *entorse à la cheville*
rattlesnake: *serpent à sonnettes*
rapids: *rapides*

San Francisco – Level 8

San Francisco | Chinatown



Liang veut fêter ses 30 ans avec sa famille et ses amis, mais cela fait beaucoup de monde à contenter. Le restaurant Wong Chang Shuen semble être le lieu idéal.

- What am I going to do for my birthday?
- What do you want to do, Liang?
- Well, I think I'd like to take everybody to a restaurant.
- And just invite friends?
- No, I'd like my family to be there, too.
- You're planning something **pretty** big then?
- It's my thirtieth birthday. That's important enough, don't you think?
- Well, if you think it's something worth **celebrating**!
- And I want to **announce** my **engagement** at the party, too, for those who don't already know.
- And give it an official touch.
- How many people are going to be there?
- About fifty, which is more than the last party and more than I can really **afford**, I guess.
- But isn't that the tradition?
- Yes, and I think it'll be really nice.
- Sure it will, with all your friends and family all together in one place.
- But that's what **worries** me.
- What do you mean?
- Well, there are some aunts and uncles I'll have to invite if the rest of the family is there.
- You can't avoid that at these special celebrations.

- But they always **wear you down** and talk about the stupidest things for hours.
- I know, mine are the same.
- And do they **make a real fuss** about everything, too?
- No, it's my mother who's like that.
- Really? Oh, my mother just keeps telling me what to do all the time.
- And she'll still be doing that when you're forty and have four kids.
- But I don't really mind. Anyway, where can I have the party?
- Why don't you have it at Wong Chang Shuen's?
- Ah yes! They make an excellent dim sum, and all sorts of special dishes.
- Yeah, anything you can think of and really good. But it's going to cost even more than you thought.
- But dad knows the owner, so I might get a good price.
- Like for the Chinese New Year's celebrations last year.
- The owner knew the **guy** who made all the dragons and told him everything at the restaurant that week was half price.
- Maybe he hoped doing somebody a favor would give him a little bit of good luck for the New Year!

pretty: *plutôt*
to celebrate: *fêter*
engagement: *fiançailles*
to afford sth: *avoir les moyens*
to worry sb: *inquiéter qqn*
to wear sb down: *épuiser qqn*
to make a fuss about sth: *faire tout un foin à propos de qqch*
guy: *type*

San Francisco | Golden Gate Bridge



Harry qui a des chagrins d'amour retrouve Sally sur le Golden Gate Bridge. Enfin une bonne âme à qui se confier ! Mais s'agit-il entre Harry et Sally vraiment d'une simple amitié ?

- Hi! Sorry I'm late.
- Don't worry, I've just arrived too.
- Here are the papers you asked for.
- Thanks. How's your husband, and the kids of course?
- Oh they're doing fine. Paul's going to high school next month,

provided everything goes **according to plan**.

- Good to hear that. Can't say the same for myself though.
- Are you still unhappy about Karen **leaving** you?
- Yeah, I guess it will take some time for me to **get over it**.
- Well try not to get too depressed about it.
- Well I know I can count on you if I need to talk about it.
- Sure, I'm always there to listen to you and give you **advice**, for what that's worth!
- It sure helps me, and I know you understand. Anyway, it's not that bad, I'm not going to jump off the bridge.
- They say the Golden Gate Bridge was always a favorite place for people to **commit suicide**, don't they?
- Ha! Yeah, but I think they try to **prevent** people from jumping off now.
- It **baffles** me why they should want to throw themselves off it. It's too beautiful to leave behind!
- It sure is nice, isn't it?
- It was built in the 30's by Joseph B. Straus.
- Isn't it the longest or highest **suspension bridge** in the world or something?
- No idea. It probably was at some point anyway.
- What's amazing is that it should stand up to **earthquakes** and hurricanes and things so long.
- Don't you think they could know about all that in the thirties?
- Well maybe with experience and modern technology it's easier to build big things nowadays.
- I guess so.
- Coming back to partnerships, maybe we should try it together.
- Hey, I'm a married woman and I want to keep it that way!
- I know, just kidding!
- We would make a great couple though, I **admit** that!

---

according to plan: *comme prévu*
to leave sb: *quitter qqn*
to get over sth: *surmonter qqch*
advice: *conseil*
to commit suicide: *se suicider*
to prevent sb from doing sth: *empêcher qqn de faire qqch*
to baffle sb: *déconcerter qqn*
suspension bridge: *pont suspendu*
earthquake: *tremblement de terre*
to admit sth: *reconnaître qqch*

San Francisco | An argument



Vic et Claire font partie de ces couples qui se disputent quand ils font les courses. Un petit rien devient rapidement une affaire d'état.

- Come on, hurry up, can't you walk a bit faster?
- It's these shoes, they hurt after a while.
- Well why don't you buy shoes that fit and are comfortable?
- Will you just stop **yelling** at me?
- But we'll never get there on time if you walk like a **snail**!
- Oh, shut up! It's my fault now is it? Who were we waiting for the whole time this morning?
- You're the one who took ages in the shower.
- But we wanted to leave at quarter after nine and I was ready.
- So was I!
- Oh **bull**! You were still standing there in your underpants!
- Don't get hysterical.
- I'm not getting hysterical! Why is it whenever I raise my voice, which is only rarely, you say I get hysterical just because I'm a woman? You're the one who keeps **shouting** at the top of your voice all the time!
- Well I have every reason to. I did the shopping and cleared up the apartment while you were out having fun half the night with that Ronald friend of yours!
- So that's what this is all about, you're just **jealous**! Well I always clear up the mess you leave so I think it's about time you did it for once!
- That's not the point. You could have invited me to come out with you.
- I can go out on my own sometimes too, you know, I don't have to be **shackled** to you.
- Shackled! That's a nice way of putting it. If you feel tied down, just leave! I'm not holding you back.
- I just might! You've been acting **abysmally** lately.
- You like him, don't you?
- Well yes, actually, quite honestly, I do, so be careful.
- Well have a nice life with him! Or were you only planning on enjoying his attentions for a year or so?

- God, Vic, I'm not having an affair!
- How should I know? What am I meant to believe?
- Just cool down. I can't stand your jealous **tantrums**.
- Alright, sorry, I don't want to **spoil** our day.
- Maybe I should have worn the other shoes.

to yell at sb: *crier sur qqn*
snail: *escargot*
bull(shit): *idioties*
to shout: *hurler*
jealous: *jaloux*
shackled: *enchaîner*
abysmally: *terriblement*
tantrum: *colère*
to spoil sth: *gâcher qqch*

Atlanta – Level 9

Atlanta | Olympic Games



Deux amis visitent le stade olympique d'Atlanta. Ils se voient déjà sur le podium avec une médaille d'or autour du cou et l'hymne national en musique de fond.

- Did you watch all the **events**?
- What do you mean all the events? You can't watch everything! But I saw most of the swimming events and **track and field**, and a little bit of virtually everything else.
- I watched all the races, of course: the one hundred and two hundred metre sprints are the classics. You can't miss them. And the **hurdles**, the **relays** ...
- Michael Johnson was amazing, wasn't he?
- Yeah. I must have seen those races and other Olympic highlights about ten times over.
- That's no problem with action replays in slow motion and close-up shots of all the **competitors**.
- Just imagine how happy and proud you must feel up there on the podium with a gold medal around your neck and the **national anthem** playing.
- Especially after all the effort you put in it, the pain and the **strain**, the years of tough training.
- Well, there are loads of other competitions you can win as well.
- Yes, but this one is probably the most prestigious.

- The most important thing is taking part, in regard to the spirit of the Olympic Games.
- But winning a medal, a gold one at that, is the best **reward** possible.
- It's a shame the **atmosphere** of the games was spoiled by the bombs.
- Yeah, that was a real shame. Fireworks are better!
- I hope bombs like those or the one in Oklahoma won't become part of normal everyday life in America.
- No, I don't think so.
- Anyway, there's not much **likelihood** of getting blown up yourself, is there?
- No, that's true. By the way, do you still watch sports as much as you used to?
- Yeah, I love it, baseball, rowing, volleyball, swimming, you name it, I watch it!
- Are you **hooked on** sports or something?
- In a way I guess I am, and I like keeping fit and active myself, and using my muscles a bit, but my weight won't let me. The first time you do something you feel **exhausted**, but the second time you're just tired!
- Yeah, I think I should do more, like go jogging or something.
- Jogging's boring! But it's all a **matter of taste**.
- I prefer team games and ball games, football, tennis, squash ...
- It's more social and you have the **incentive** to win.
- Like the gold medal and the fame and **glory** at the Olympics.
- Well, I wouldn't compare it to that!
- Maybe not. I was pleased the States got the most medals though.
- China, Germany and France did well, but Britain was way down on the list!
- Yeah, but as we said, it's participating that counts.
- Yeah yeah ...

---

event: *épreuve*
track and field: *athlétisme*
hurdles: *course de haies*
relay: *relais*
competitor: *participant*
national anthem: *hymne national*
strain: *effort*
reward: *récompense*
atmosphere: *ambiance*
likelihood: *probabilité*
to be hooked on sth: *être accro à qqch*
exhausted: *épuisé*
matter of taste: *question de goût*
incentive: *motivation*
glory: *gloire*

Atlanta | Shopping mall



Ann et Todd font du shopping dans un centre commercial. Todd aimerait bien jeter un coup d'œil au rayon électroménager alors qu'Ann a une nette préférence pour la lingerie fine. Ils finissent par se mettre d'accord.

- I love the **shopping mall**! You can get just about everything here.
- Yeah, but I don't like being indoors all the time. Wouldn't you rather go shopping outside in the sunshine and fresh air?
- No! I don't want to catch a cold!
- Oh, that's a **bunch of baloney**! It's a beautiful day out there. It is warm, the sun is shining and the birds are singing. Don't you think that would be much nicer?
- No way, Todd! First of all it's hot as hell out there, and secondly you never know when the weather could change. We could get stuck in a thunderstorm! It's nice and air-conditioned in here, with light relaxing music in the background. Besides, just think of what would happen if my all my bags and new clothes got wet!
- Yeah, you'd probably be an even bigger **pain**!
- Hey, now! Don't be a baby!
- Okay, okay, we're here now … so what else do you want to get?
- Ooh! You know that really trendy shoe store is having a close-out sale this week. Why don't we go take a look.
- Shoes? Ann, are you kidding? Our closet is already **crammed** with thousands of pairs of shoes. I really want to go to Sharper Image. They've got all the latest electronics and household appliances. It's a real shoppers paradise!
- Todd, you really have to buy some new shoes. These ones you have are starting to look a bit **worn**. And then we can go to Sharper Image, although I'm not sure if we can really afford a new stereo.
- Well, I never said I wanted to buy a new stereo. I'd just like to look around for a few minutes.
- Alright, that's fine. But if I go there with you, you have to come to Victoria's Secret with me. Maybe I'll buy some sexy **lingerie**.
- You want me to go to the underwear store with you? Ann, what if somebody sees me?

- Don't be silly, Todd. First of all it's not underwear, it's lingerie. Besides that, it'll be fun!
- Well, maybe I could help you find something special! But let's go to the CD store then, okay?
- Sure. We can look for those CDs you wanted.
- Excellent! There's a music store on the next floor.
- We could use some good new CDs for our party next Saturday.
- And then we can stop by Macy's on the second floor.
- Yeah, you definitely need a new suit for work, the old one is starting to look a little **shabby**.
- Actually, I was thinking of something a bit more **flamboyant** for the party. Maybe a trendy new suit, and a bright red tie!
- Todd, we're having a party, not a fashion show! Let's just look to see if we can find a few nice things to wear.
- Oh, Ann don't be such a **party pooper**! At work I have to wear the same things day in, day out, and on weekends I always wear jeans.
- Well, that doesn't mean you have to look like a clown when we have a party. Or do you want me to pretend I don't know you?
- Look, Ann, I just want to wear something different **for a change**!
- Okay, okay, I'm just kidding. I'll help you find something **respectable**, alright?
- Great! Now, why don't you let me help you with those bags?

---

shopping mall: *centre commercial*
bunch of baloney: *foutaises*
pain: *casse-pieds*
crammed: *pleine*
worn: *usé*
lingerie: *lingerie*
shabby: *minable, miteux*
flamboyant: *extravagant*
party pooper: *rabat-joie*
for a change: *pour changer*
respectable: *convenable*

Atlanta | Airport



L'aéroport d'Atlanta est l'un des plus grands aéroports du monde. Ces deux voyageurs, qui attendent leur vol, sont impressionnés.

- Atlanta International Airport is one of the busiest airports in the USA.
- Yeah, when I was here in December 1992, I heard over 42 million passengers a year check in here.
- And the number is probably much higher now.
- Look at them all. They're like ants!
- I really like airports and train stations with all the people coming and going.
- Yes, there's always a lot of activity, a lot to look at.
- You see all sorts of people, the most boring, the most beautiful and the **weirdest**.
- I mostly associate airports with work, so I don't get much pleasure out of traveling.
- Well, I go on business trips a lot too, but somehow the **buzz** of it still fascinates me.
- I do like it, but of course especially when I go on vacation. Which doesn't mean interesting things can't happen if you're on business.
- No, I flew to India and Thailand last year, and had to wait at the airport for about nine hours. They had canceled a flight because of technical problems, and delayed the others. It was absolute chaos, but I had time to read half a book and go through the duty-free shops three times.
- Didn't that really annoy you?
- Oh yes, it was a total **waste** of a day, but I killed a few hours reading an interesting novel. And I met a very nice woman who was a passenger on the same flight.
- Trust you to make time with a woman at the first opportunity!
- Oh, don't be stupid. She was just very nice. I certainly wouldn't have minded getting to know her much better.
- Was she on business, too?
- Yes, she works for our rival firm! Or was it our partner's?
- Well, if you're lucky, they'll headhunt you and then you can see her every day.

- Oh no, you don't want to be in each other's hair all day!
- But maybe you should have **exchanged** numbers.
- Yes, that would have been the best thing.
- Or arranged to meet up after landing at your destination. Oh well, you win

some, you lose some!
- Well, it's a shame, but you don't have to **make a mountain out of a molehill**. We were both stuck in the same boat and that sort of binds you together.
- I agree. But next time you see her, don't forget to ask her for a date!

weird: *bizarre*
buzz: *excitation, confusion*
waste: *gaspillage, perte*
to exchange: *échanger*
to make a mountain out of a molehill: *faire d'une taupinière une montagne*

Atlanta | Car rental



Un couple de vacanciers aimerait louer une voiture. Mais ce n'est pas aussi simple que ça en a l'air. Il faut choisir un véhicule et remplir une multitude de formulaires. Heureusement, le concessionnaire s'avère être de bon conseil.

- Hello, we'd like to **rent a car**, please.
- For how long?
- For three days.
- How much does it cost?
- It depends on what car you take.
- Why, what types of car do you have to offer?
- You can have a normal four-door **sedan**, a pick-up truck, a **station wagon**, a nice big Lincoln or Cadillac ... We have everything you need here.
- We'll take the station wagon, please. We have two kids and lots of luggage, so it's more practical, and we're helping my brother transport something big later on, too.
- OK, that'll cost you fifty dollars a day.
- That's fine.
- Can I see your **driver's license** please?

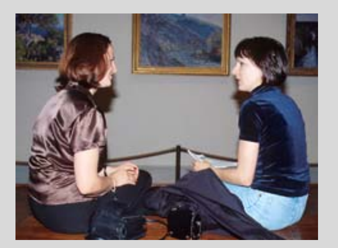
- Here's mine.
- And here's mine.
- OK. And do you have a major credit card?
- Here you are.
- Thank you. Could you just fill out this form, please?
- Certainly. Do you have a **map** of Atlanta and of the area?
- Sure, and here's a small guide to good places to eat and the sights to see if you've never been here before.
- Is there a restaurant you can **recommend**?
- Well, personally, I like 'Pat's **Revenge**'. The food, the service, the atmosphere, everything is just wonderful.
- Alright then, we'll make sure we don't miss out on that one.
- **It's worth** reserving a few days in advance, and if you do go there, try the chicken wings and Pat's Spicy Special. It's awesome! And mighty hot!
- Oh, **I'm not too hot on** very spicy dishes.
- But I am! I think I'm going to love it.
- Where is it, anyway?
- It's **downtown**. You can't miss it. I'll circle it on the map for you.
- That would be great, thanks.
- I think it's in that guide, too, but if not, just ask anyone in the **neighborhood**. They'll be able to tell you the phone number or at least how to get there.
- Thank you very much.

---

to rent a car: *louer une voiture*
sedan: *berline*
station wagon: *break*
driver's license: *permis de conduire*
map: *plan*
to recommend: *recommander*
revenge: *revanche*
it's worth: *ça vaut le coup*
to be hot on sth: *être porté sur qqch*
downtown: *centre-ville*
neighborhood: *voisinage*

Chicago – Level 10

Chicago | Art Institute



Deux mordues d'art et de peinture se retrouvent à l'institut culturel de Chicago. C'est l'occasion de découvrir de nouvelles toiles et de nouveaux peintres.

- Monet, Gauguin, Cézanne, Degas, they're all here.
- Yes, Renoir, Van Gogh ... They have quite a collection!
- I love the Impressionists. They had a really fresh, lively, colorful way of painting.
- I like all sorts of **paintings**, belonging to all the **movements**. Even the very old ones.
- So do I really. They all have their **appeal**. But I think the Impressionists are my favorite painters.
- You can get a bit too much of them though. Just about every office has a reproduction of a Van Gogh or Cézanne.
- Or of Monet's 'Waterlilies' for example.
- Yes. I think the original of that is at the National Gallery in London.
- Well especially for an office, you can't really go wrong with the Impressionists. They're mostly **pleasant**, with lots of light, and no naked bodies to distract you while you're working!
- Except some of Renoir's works of course.
- It's funny that the Art Institute of Chicago should have so many nice paintings.
- In my opinion, it's good to have famous works of art **dispersed** all over the world. Like that, all the major museums have some to **display** and people everywhere can admire them.
- There's more to see in Chicago itself. Works by Picasso, or Chagall.
- There's a mosaic by Chagall called 'The Four Seasons'.
- Yes, you have to go to the square in front of the First National Bank building.
- Did you know that there was so much art to see in this city?

- Of course. As far as architecture is concerned, it's quite interesting, too.
- Yeah there are some pretty nice modern buildings, the Sears Tower and the Atrium Mall in the State of Illinois Center.
- And if you're interested in architecture, the Frank Lloyd Wright buildings are a must, in the Astor Street District, or the Robie House, which is quite well-known.
- Anyway, I've seen enough paintings here now. You can't **take in** too much in one go.
- Alright, let's go and have a bite to eat somewhere.
- And sit down and rest our legs. We've been walking around the city and the museum non-stop for four hours!

painting: *tableau*
movement: *mouvement*
appeal: *intérêt, trait*
pleasant: *plaisant*
dispersed: *réparti*
to display sth: *exposer qqch*
to take sth in: *intégrer*

Chicago I Symphony Orchestra



Le plus célèbre orchestre symphonique des Etats-Unis se trouve à Chicago. Deux musiciennes discutent de leur travail et de leur passion pour la musique.

- We can count ourselves lucky, really, to be able to play in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.
- When you think about it, there are loads of **aspiring** violinists who would love to play here.
- And there's a lot of young talent around.
- It won't be long before a couple of the **budding** violinists we see now are playing in the orchestra here.
- No. I saw a few excellent players at various **recitals** and competitions.
- They all dream of a solo career or a position as first violinist in Chicago, L.A. or New York.
- Some are technically very good, but too young. Somehow the way they play lacks inspiration and interpretation.
- Yeah, I guess that comes with age, **to some extent**. We'll learn a lot

with time, too. Would you prefer to be a soloist?

- Yes, I would really. But you've got to be tough for that, I think.
- My dream is to follow in the footsteps of Heifetz, Menuhin, Stern or Perlman.
- Playing Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto at Carnegie Hall, for example. That'd be the **pinnacle** of any violinist's career. But I'm quite happy here in the orchestra, too.
- Yes, I like the atmosphere among the musicians and playing in front of a full audience.
- And some **conductors** develop a special rapport with the orchestra.
- What are the highlights which you have had in your working life so far?
- Well, I remember one fantastic night a few years ago, James Levine was conducting, and there were many famous people in the audience.
- And did you play well?
- Yes, of course, but that's not all. A friend of mine who was in the audience came up to me in the **intermission** to announce the birth of my little niece!
- That's great! And does she enjoy music?
- Of course. And she's called Maria after Maria Callas. Anyway, let's get going.
- Yeah. Back to work. We're having a full general **rehearsal** tomorrow, and I think it'll all go well. But I feel pretty tired today, so I'm going to go to bed early.
- So am I. It's been a tiring week.

---

aspiring: *qui aspire à qqch, futur*
budding: *en herbe*
recital: *concert*
to some extent: *en partie*
pinnacle: *apogée*
conductor: *chef d'orchestre*
intermission: *entracte*
rehearsal: *répétition*

Chicago | Futures market



Actions, fonds d'investissements, opérations à terme… même pendant leur pause le travail continue à préoccuper ces deux agents de change.

- Friday was a little bit calmer than Thursday morning. All hell broke loose on the **trading floor**.
- I think all the markets were going wild.
- I asked John what it was like. He said he had McMahon shouting 'Where's gold? Where's gold?' on the phone.
- Yeah, and he's the sort of guy who wouldn't **raise an eyebrow** if I stripped in front of him.
- It was certainly **frantic** on our **commodities futures**.
- From corn to pork bellies to currencies, everything was going crazy.
- I was **transacting** around ten trades a minute, **calls and puts** on futures contracts no end.
- Days like that can take a few years off your life.
- Yeah, well at least it's not like that all the time.
- By the way, how long have you been in the business?
- Let me see, six years here and then a **stint** in Frankfurt and London and then back here ... about 18 years.
- God, so long! I joined Financial Futures straight after college. That makes just five and a half years. I don't think I could take it for eighteen.
- Well, with the current **spell** of **firing**, you might not have to!
- Oh, it's alright. They're not **letting people go** like three years ago. So what college did you go to?
- I didn't. You don't have to study anything to do my job. You just have to think quickly, to be the right kind of man for the job.
- Or woman.

---

trading floor: *parquet de la bourse*
to raise an eyebrow: *lever le sourcil*
frantic: *frénétique*
commodities futures: *transactions à terme de marchandises*

---

to transact: *négocier*
calls and puts: *options d'achat et de vente*
stint: *un certain temps*

spell: *période*
to fire sb: *virer qqn*
to let sb go: *licencier qqn*

Washington – Level 10

Washington I World Bank



Washington, c'est aussi le siège de la banque mondiale. Bill et Ted discutent du rôle de cette institution. Leurs avis ont l'air de diverger !

- I guess lots of people work for the government in Washington, hey?
- Apparently, around three hundred and fifty thousand people work in administration, and tens of thousands in the various national and international organizations.
- Yeah, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund are based here, for example.
- That's the World Bank building there, I think. What does it do exactly?
- Well, it aims to **promote** reconstruction and development and raise the standard of living.
- In **underdeveloped countries** you mean?
- Yes, and anywhere else where it's needed.
- And it helps them by **granting loans**?
- Yes, under certain conditions like improving the rate of tax collection. And the IMF promotes international cooperation on **monetary policies**, amongst other things. It supports member states with difficulties in their balance of payments by giving them **short-term** loans.
- And what do the members do or promise to do in return?
- Well, for instance, they ensure the continuing stability of their currency and don't just change its value at will.

- I suppose it's a way of applying pressure on unstable or **volatile** countries and keeping countries together.
- Like GATT, during the Uruguay round of talks for example. It all helps to prevent trade wars and to bring down trade barriers.
- I'll just take your word for it. I didn't study politics and economics.
- Would you like to be a politician?
- Nothing less than the President himself!
- Really?
- Don't be stupid!
- I'd prefer it to being a peanut farmer or an actor!
- The money's alright, but not the responsibility that comes with all that power!
- And being **hounded** and **scrutinized** by journalists doesn't sound wonderful.
- No, it's not exactly my idea of a relaxing working life!
- I mean, sure, meeting all the top guys from all the countries, that must be real interesting.
- And working here every day. Capitol Hill and the White House are mighty impressive.
- But I couldn't get used to sleeping only a few hours a night.
- And I'd have absolutely no idea of how to **run a country** and what to do.
- Neither would I, really. But it's up to them, it's what they're paid for.
- Paid a lot for!

---

to promote: *promouvoir*
underdeveloped countries: *pays en voie de développement*
to grant: *accorder*
loan: *crédit*
monetary policy: *politique monétaire*
short-term: *à court terme*
volatile: *instable*
to hound sb: *pourchasser qqn*
to scrutinize sb: *surveiller qqn*
to run a country: *diriger un pays*

Washington | Hospital



Infirmière, c'est un rude métier, mais c'est aussi une vocation. Malgré la fatigue et le stress, ces deux infirmières restent absorbées par l'état de santé de leurs malades.

- I'm certainly busy, you can say that again! Man, I hardly get a minute's **rest**!
- Yes, it's hard work. You're on your feet all day and have to turn patients over and lift them up.
- Sure, and you work long hours, with **night shifts** and all. It's damned tiring.
- The doctors **work overtime**, there aren't enough nurses, there aren't enough beds.
- Sometimes I'm so **worn out** I just feel like lying down on one of these beds and sleeping for ten hours!
- And who's going to look after all the patients? And I'm sure they want you to take care of them just as much as they want me to.
- How is Mr Cartwright feeling today?
- Not too bad. He's glad the operation's over.
- The doctor's going to come around this afternoon to have another look at him.
- But it won't be necessary to operate again, will it?
- No, it was quite **straightforward**. There were no complications. One time under anesthetic and one operation are enough, and not too many **shots** and medicine!
- He'll probably be out of the hospital in two days - and I have to go on working now.

---

rest: *repos*
night shift: *nuit de garde*
to work overtime: *faire des heures supplémentaires*
worn out: *épuisé*
straightforward: *simple*
shot: *piqûre*

Washington | At the hairdresser's



Lola a besoin d'une bonne coupe de cheveux. Heureusement elle a un bon coiffeur, qui va lui faire une nouvelle tête. Mais si seulement il pouvait se taire !

- Can I bring you a coffee or a magazine?
- No coffee, thanks, I've just had two, but I'll have the magazine please.
- Sure, here you are. And if you could sit over here ... How would you like it done?
- Um, shortish at the sides and at the back, please. I mean, nicely **trimmed**.
- And how much do you want **off the top**?
- Oh, not too much.
- Like that?
- Yes, that's fine, thanks. It's especially the hair on my neck which was getting on my nerves. I don't like it when it gets too long.
- When did you last have your hair cut?
- Oh, ages ago. I can't remember when exactly, actually. Although I actually quite like it, because you can sit and rest and **let your thoughts wander**.
- And think, and solve a problem, or make a decision about something you weren't sure about.
- Yes, last time I decided not to have my car repaired, but to sell what was left of it and buy a new one.
- Did you have an accident with it?
- Yes, it was almost a **write-off**.
- Is that alright like that?
- Fine. You can even take **a tiny bit** more off.
- Excuse me for a second. I just have to arrange an appointment with the customer here. Right, I'm back. Sorry about that.
- Don't worry about it.
- Don't you have to go to work today?
- No, I'm on vacation for a couple of days. I come from New York. I'm just passing through here. I'm staying at a friend's place before I move on to Richmond to visit some other friends.
- Oh, I spent four years in New York. That's where I learned all about

hairdressing. I used to work somewhere where they did the latest styles right away, as soon as they were in fashion. We always had to **stay on the ball** in that respect. I really liked it there and I made a lot of friends. I think it would be great to have some friends in lots of countries and big cities. So you could stay everywhere for free as well as see old friends. Of course, it's not quite as easy if you're married with kids. Are you married?

■ No, I'm single. Do you always talk so much with your customers?

---

to trim: *couper*
off the top: *enlevé en haut*
to let one's thoughts wander: *laisser son esprit vagabonder*
write-off: *catastrophe*
a tiny bit: *un tout petit peu*
to stay on the ball: *rester au courant*

Orlando – Level 11

Orlando | Gossip on the beach



Martin est maître nageur sauveteur et il prend son métier très au sérieux. Roger trouve la plage paradisiaque et n'arrive pas s'imaginer que la baignade puisse être dangereuse.

■ Wow, this is great that you have a house right here on the beach! I wish I could come here every day!

■ Yeah, but when you live here you have to **put up with** a lot of people, like that guy, who like to show off! But I'm a lifeguard and being on the beach every day is pretty hard work! And you have to put up with a lot of **hassle**.

■ At least you get to spend a lot of time working on your tan! And I can tell by the **glint** in your eye that you love your job!

■ Well I do like the work, but sometimes it's hard to get by on the small salary they give me. And it's pretty dangerous out there!

■ Look at that beautiful beach and the clear water ... how can it be dangerous?

■ Well, first of all, it really gets on your nerves when you have to stare at that beautiful clear water

all day long and besides that, the water isn't as safe as it looks!

- What? Are you afraid of being eaten by a shark? Or are you worried about being attacked by a horde of **jellyfish**?
- C'mon ... you know that we hardly have any shark attacks and that the jellyfish on our beaches are relatively harmless.
- Then I don't **get** what's so dangerous about being a lifeguard.
- You can't really see it, but there is a very strong **current** in the water. At **low tide**, it can drag you almost a mile out into the ocean. Most people can't swim back.
- Yikes! That does sound a little scary!
- Yeah it is! But you do get training on how to handle the situation. I've been a lifeguard for six years now, and I really take my job seriously. I've also had training in scuba diving, in case there is a diving accident.
- Wow! I wish I had more time for things like that, but when I go to the beach I usually just have my towel and my **trunks**. Do you get along with your boss and your co-workers?
- We all get along great, but it isn't like Baywatch here! Sometimes the other lifeguards do get on my nerves a little bit. You also have to stay in top condition all the time. If you put on any weight, it could slow you down in an emergency.
- I guess you have to put off your vacation too, don't you? If your job is about laying around on the beach, who needs a vacation?
- Hey! I don't have to put up with your jokes all the time, do I? You should try to get it into your head that we all work pretty hard here!
- Okay, okay, I'm sorry! It could be me who you drag out of the water one day.
- But even though I just lay around on the beach all summer, I do like to go on vacation!
- So do you like to go someplace nice and cold to relax?
- No way! It would really get on my nerves to get stuck in some cold, dark place for a few weeks. I need the sun, baby! Since I have to take vacation when it's winter here, I usually go to Australia where it's summer, or to Hawaii where it's always summer!
- Australia, Hawaii ... it sounds like you're an **avid** surfer too!
- You bet! If somebody gets in trouble further out in the water, we use a surfboard to go out to help them.
- So you surf out to save them?
- Not really. We paddle out on the board, and then use it to bring the person back. Sometimes it is pretty frightening out there, but I love the work, and I love the beach!
- No matter what, I still wish I could come to the beach every day!

to put up with: *supporter*
hassle: *tracas*
glint: *éclair*
jellyfish: *méduse*
to get sth: *comprendre*

current: *courant*
low tide: *marée basse*
trunks: *maillot de bain*
avid: *passionné*

Orlando | Fast-food restaurant



Pour leur premier rendez-vous, Mikey invite Lisa à manger. Mickey, qui est un grand romantique va-t-il réussir à séduire Lisa ?

- You just wait here, I'll get the food.
- I can come with you to help you carry it all if you want.
- No, it's alright, I'll **manage**.
- Well, you only have two hands. Let me help you carry it to the table.
- No, you wait here, while I get our order.
- Well, let me at least give you some money.
- No, out the money away. I want to invite you. It's my treat! Now, what would you like?
- I'll have a cheeseburger with a large order of fries, please.
- And what would you like to drink?
- A diet coke please. Don't forget the ketchup, Mikey!
- Of course not. I'll be right back with your order.
- Wow! What service! You should be a waiter.
- Only the best for you my dear.
- Ooh. The service is not only good looking but also friendly. This is better than a real restaurant!
- Well, this is a special day. This is our first date, after all.
- I just hope you remember that good girls don't kiss on the first date!
- **The thought never entered my mind**. I'm just a friendly sort of guy, that's all.
- This burger looks good, and it smells good. Now, let's see if it tastes good.
- I just love fast food. I think it's better than anything a real restaurant has to offer.

- Yeah, I pretty much like it all, whether its burgers, fried chicken or donuts and bagels.
- I'm not **picky** either. I'll eat anything on the menu.
- I'll eat just about anything too, but I'm not too crazy about seafood. What about you?
- Well, I like **salmon** and other kinds of fish, but I don't really like **lobster** or crab.
- And don't forget that seafood gives you **bad breath**, too. If you have bad breath nobody will want to kiss you!
- But these French fries won't give me bad breath, will they?
- Maybe you should just concentrate on eating your food for now. We'll see what happens later.
- I have to admit, it's hard to concentrate on food, when I have such **enchanting** company.
- Flattery will get you nowhere. Now give me some of your chicken!
- Hey, this is mine! Eat yours first.
- Oh yeah? No chicken, then no **kiss**!
- Well, can I at least have your phone number?

to manage: *s'en occuper*
The thought never entered my mind.: *je n'y avais jamais pensé.*
picky: *difficile*
salmon: *saumon*
lobster: *homard*
bad breath: *mauvaise haleine*
enchanting: *charmant*
kiss: *bisou*

Orlando | Cape Canaveral



Deux touristes visitent la base spatiale de Cape Canaveral, Ils sont très impressionnés par les progrès techniques réalisés. Enfants, ils rêvaient sûrement d'être astronautes.

- I must admit, I don't care about space and all that very much.
- Well, it's fascinating to see all these **rockets**.
- Yeah, just think of all the money and effort that has been put into the development of all the technology here.
- I wonder how different our idea of the world would be if we didn't know about space and all the planets.

- Or if Apollo 11 hadn't been sent to the moon in '69.
- At the time when such projects were being planned, I bet people thought they were impossible or it was **sheer madness**. But look at the advantages now of having satellites and the knowledge of our solar system.
- Call it science or just **curiosity** - **research** has led to much progress in the world.
- And to a lot of bad things.
- We can do without space and rockets **as far as I'm concerned**.
- I guess so. Would you go up into space in the **shuttle** if you had the chance?
- What, if I was an astronaut you mean?
- Or if it was possible for normal people to travel regularly and easily to space and back. In fifty years, say.
- I'll be gone in fifty years, and without having missed anything.
- But wouldn't you want to, for the experience?
- You must be joking! No, I like it down here on Earth, thank you.

rocket: *fusée*
sheer madness: *complètement fou*
curiosity: *curiosité*
research: *recherche*
as far as I'm concerned: *en ce qui me concerne*
shuttle: *navette*

New York – Level 12

New York | Little Italy



Max et Richie attendent Maria au cœur de Little Italy. Ils sont New-Yorkais dans l'âme et connaissent la ville comme leur poche.

- Chelsea and Soho – this is the heart of New York's art world.
- Yes, I went to a very interesting exhibition of paintings in Chelsea the other day.
- Where was it?
- It was at the artist's private home. Quite small – there must have been only about fifty people in all there that afternoon. It was nice and

personal. You could have a chat with the artist himself and talk to many other people over a glass of Buck's Fizz.

- Oh, **refreshments** were served, too? That's nice. There are always a great deal of cultural events happening in New York – **exhibitions** and concerts, and often outdoors in Chelsea or Soho.
- Yeah, people perform acrobatic tricks and play music in Washington Square.
- I listened to a short open-air concert in Battery Park during my lunch hour two days ago. I think it was organized by the **borough**.
- I regret not doing more, though. There is so much going on in New York, but you never seem to get around to **making the most of** what's on offer.
- I know where we can go for lunch today. I know a nice little restaurant in Little Italy.
- What's it called?
- Well, I **ran into** James in Little Italy two weeks ago and he recommended this restaurant to me. I'm afraid I can't recall the name of it, but I'm sure I can find it again without any problem.
- Well, you lead the way. I'll just have to trust you!
- Ciao Maria, how are you doing?
- Hi! I'm fine. Are you coming to Giovanni's for lunch?
- We weren't going to, but it doesn't matter.
- My brother and I are preparing for la festa di San Gennaro the day after tomorrow.
- Oh, yeah, I'm looking forward to all that great food. Are you doing anything special at the restaurant?
- Sure. There's a special menu all day and a party in the evening with delicious Italian specialties and free house wine. Are you coming?
- Yeah, you can count on me. And you, Richie?
- I don't know. I was going to see if I could get tickets for a musical.
- Oh, you can go to musicals all year! Come along.
- Be there or be square!
- Alright. You didn't have to **twist my arm** much, did you?

---

refreshments: *rafraîchissements*
exhibition: *exposition*
borough: *municipalité*
to make the most of sth: *en profiter au maximum*
to run into sb: *tomber sur qqn*
to twist sb's arm: *forcer la main à qqn*

New York | Wall Street



Les deux agents de change Harry et Jake n'ont pas que Wall Street en tête. Harry s'intéresse de près à sa collègue, mais pas seulement pour des raisons professionnelles !

- Hey, I need to go up to the office in ten minutes.
- Why, you scared Max is going to fire you for having a half-hour lunch break?
- No, but it's the best time to catch Aaron and Sam before they go off.
- Yes, they always want information from you, but when you want to ask them something, they don't know or they don't have any time.
- Remember to phone Marina up later to catch up on the latest regarding the management buyout and the insider trading business.
- I'm making progress in other ways, too.
- What do you mean?
- I couldn't resist asking her out for dinner on Thursday. And she doesn't object to, uh, **resuming** business talks over a glass of wine next Thursday either.
- Hey, watch out! She's extremely attractive but her company's still our hottest competition.
- Yeah, and I know Max gets a bit **touchy** about such things.
- Look, I have to go back now. Can you buy me two of those sandwiches like the ones you got yesterday?
- Sure, Alex, I'll be up in fifteen minutes.
- What are you going to do?
- I think I'm just going to take a walk around Battery Park.
- Or you could go and see Mark at the NYSE. If you do, **give him my regards** and remind him to reply to John Goodridge in London a.s.a.p.
- That's not about the job at Goldman Sachs here in New York though, is it?
- No, no, it's just that we're planning to go to London in two weeks. You know, one hour's meeting as a pretext to spend four days including the weekend on the town.
- If it's anything like the last trip, you won't be fit till next month!

- Doesn't mean I can't work!
- Nothing wrong with **clinching deals** in a drunken stupor you mean?
- No, but momentary **degeneracy** has never hurt anyone!
- It just gives you all the more energy to get going afterwards.
- You certainly have to get going at our company. They make you work like mad here!

to resume sth: *reprendre qqch*
touchy: *sensible*
give him my regards: *fais-lui mes amitiés*
to clinch a deal: *conclure un marché*
degeneracy: *déchéance*

New York | 5th Avenue



La vie est dure pour ces dames de la 5ème avenue ! Leur toutou n'aime pas le saumon, le manteau de fourrure de leurs rêves reste introuvable et Tiffany's n'est plus que c'était !

- Fiffy's been acting a bit **funny** lately.
- Why's that?
- I don't know, but Robert says that maybe he needs company.
- Suggesting that you should get another little dog, so that Fiffy has a friend to play around with?
- Yes, but I think he would just like more different types of food, and something special to **cheer him up** now and again.
- Why don't you give him a dish with finely cut up salmon and steak and stuff?
- Yup, I'll give him that tonight.
- By the way, did you find that coat you wanted?
- Oh, I tried Bloomingdales and Macy's but what I saw wasn't quite right.
- By the look on your face that day, I ... I don't think there was anything which could have **pleased** you.
- I know, Robert often says I'm difficult to please.
- Well if I don't find what I need at Macy's or some other big store, I just **drop in** at some of the more exclusive places.

- Of course, you get better and more personal service.
- And some of the customers are quite prominent people. I'm sure I recognized Meryl Streep the other day.
- Hey, I saw a **delightful** little **brooch** at Tiffany's the day before yesterday. It was simply fabulous!
- How much did it cost?
- Well it cost twenty five thousand dollars, but I really need another brooch or necklace. And it's just the right thing, with five diamonds on it.
- But not too flashy I hope.
- Oh no, really quite decent, and Robert says that at that price it's quite a good buy.
- Well I've **set my heart on** a beautiful red dress which they have on display at Goodley's at the moment. It's excellent quality and smart but also really **tight** and sexy, and they have it in blue as well in case red's too visible.
- At your age you can afford to wear things like that.
- Oh you can't imagine how difficult it is keeping in shape. I work out at the studio two times a week to keep my butt and my legs firm.
- Robert says I spend too much time in the bathroom putting on cleansing lotions and facial day creams. But I know what keeps my skin soft and looking healthy and I'm sure he prefers it too, really.
- You know at what **tremendous** speed your skin can become rough and not firm any more if you don't take care of it. Hey, do you want to go and have one of those delicious salads at that place on Lexington Avenue?
- OK, although Robert says there's a place ...
- Never mind what Robert says! We're going there!

---

funny: *bizarre*
to cheer sb up: *remonter le moral à qqn*
to please sb: *plaire à qqn*
to drop in: *passer*
delightful: *ravissant*
brooch: *broche*
to set one's heart on sth: *tomber amoureux de qqch*
tight: *serré*
tremendous: *formidable*

New York | Jewish synagogue



New York est la plus grande communauté juive des Etats-Unis. Josh y est chez lui et il aimerait bien persuader Irma, qui est en visite, de venir s'installer à New York. Peut-être se laissera t-il séduire par la bonne cuisine juive ?

- This is a beautiful synagogue, built in 1870. And has a wonderful example of a church or synagogue **rose window**. It's one of the largest rose windows in the world.
- How large is the Jewish **community** in New York?
- Oh, there are about 1.2 million Jews living in New York.
- Half my family lives here even though I don't myself.
- Why don't you come over and live here with us and your family?
- I can't really, I have my **commitments** where I am now, in London.
- Ah, where there's a will, there's a way!
- Sure, that's true, alright already. I'll think about it.
- I don't want to **push** you, but you know you'd like it.
- Of course I would, what do you think?
- Anyway, let's get some food.
- I'm starving.
- There's a great delicatessen further up the street.
- Talking about food, did I tell you we had twenty-two **cookery books** at home?
- It's not the number of books you have which makes you a good **cook**.
- No, but my wife is a **marvelous** cook. She uses the books to give her ideas, not to follow word for word.
- You enjoy good food, do you?
- You can't only eat **matzos** all year!
- I'll show you a few places where they sell excellent quality kosher food. They have an enormous range of products.
- And I'll do you something later on which you'll love. It's a little recipe I got from Rabbi Lionel Green at home.
- I'm looking forward to it. You can cook something every day during your stay if you want.
- Hey, don't ask for too much or you won't get anything!

rose window: *rosace*
community: *communauté*
commitment: *engagement*
to push sb to do sth: *pousser qqn à faire qqch*

cookery book: *livre de cuisine*
cook: *cuisinier*
marvelous: *excellent*
matzo: *pain azyme*

Los Angeles – Level 12

Los Angeles | In the office



En Europe, les affaires vont mal. Le président du conseil d'administration anime une réunion pour élaborer une nouvelle stratégie. L'ouverture d'une filiale en Europe serait peut-être la meilleure solution…

- I'd like to thank you for taking the time to meet with me today. We have a lot of important things to discuss. We've managed to secure our **share** of the market in Canada and sales have continued to grow in the U.S. but what worries me is how things are progressing in Europe. Now, I'd like to discuss how we can succeed in increasing our market share in Europe.
- I agree, but you have to **bear in mind** that we don't have a lot of experience in Europe.
- You have a point there.
- Quite frankly, you have to admit, that our products are the best on the market, and everyone knows that.
- I think you're right, Susan. If we had greater **exposure**, we could expand our market share.
- That's true to some extent, but there are other aspects to think about to avoid making mistakes.
- I would like to **emphasize** taking the trouble to **maintain** a high level of service!
- To be honest, we also need to **assess** our past performance.
- Well, we can't **postpone** doing this until later. We simply can't afford to risk losing more customers and contracts.
- Susan, don't be ridiculous. With talk like that, you'll manage to put everybody in a foul mood. You have to remember that we have

succeeded in securing our share of the market in Canada.

- I'd like to emphasize that we took the trouble to focus on customer needs in Canada and it really paid off.
- I think we would be more effective if we centered our marketing efforts in Europe.
- Well, this has proven to be a successful solution in Canada. If we could use a similar model, we should be able to increase our market share. You have to bear in mind, though, that Europe is not Canada! Things could get **tricky**!
- I think we can succeed if we can manage to set up a marketing team in every individual country, and not have it all led by our offices here.
- We really should emphasize putting someone on site. If we had a marketing team on location, we would be more **responsive** to our customer needs.
- Yes, we currently only have one marketing office covering all of Europe. And that office is based here in Los Angeles. And I just don't think that it's effective.
- I think we have a lot to gain by expanding our European marketing operation.
- But wouldn't that cost a lot? Do you think we could afford investing the resources?
- Well, maybe. It might **entail** reducing the size of the American office to cut costs.
- Considering the travel costs involved, this could be viable option.
- A complete cost analysis is necessary before making a final decision.
- I'm afraid this won't be enough. Maybe we should also consider expanding the product line. Currently, we're only selling our most popular products in Europe.
- That's true. Market research has shown that there is a lot of opportunity for specialized products in Europe.
- And if we had a marketing team in Europe we would be able to tailor our products to our customer's needs.
- Yes, I think by introducing a broader product line, combined with establishing a marketing team based in Europe, we could turn things around.
- Yes, I think we should weigh the possibilities.
- Susan, why don't you organize a team to do some research to see if this is **worthwhile**.
- I'll get started on that right away.
- Great! I think this meeting was really worthwhile. We have come up with some excellent proposals and I'm looking forward to seeing your report.

(market) share: *part (de marché)*
to bear sth in mind: *garder qqch à l'esprit*

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exposure: *couverture, distribution*
to emphasize: *insister sur un point*
to maintain: *maintenir*
to assess: *faire une évaluation*
to postpone sth: *repousser qqch*

tricky: *difficile*
responsive: *à l'écoute*
to entail: *entraîner*
worthwhile: *qui en vaut la peine*

Los Angeles I Silicon Valley



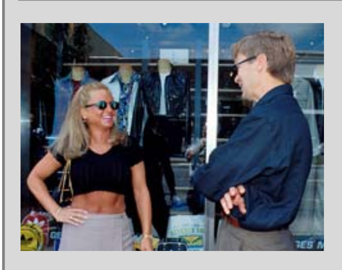
Un salon d'informatique, c'est toujours une bonne occasion de discuter sur l'impact des nouvelles technologies dans notre société. Surtout quand le salon a lieu à Silicon Valley, le haut-lieu de l'industrie informatique.

- This is the heart of the computer industry.
- It's an important place for the United States.
- And for the whole world!
- Yes, in this **age** of telecommunications.
- If you think about it, almost every office and every home has a computer, a fax, a telephone ...
- Yeah, everyone's talking to everyone else at the same time all over the world.
- A world with people **linked up** to the World Wide Web, surfing on the Internet, talking to people on the other side of the world.
- Names like Microsoft, IBM, Apple, HP, Compaq, Intel, Motorola are **household** names in every country.
- Are they taking over our lives?
- Well, so many things depend on computers nowadays.
- We can't really do without them, I agree.
- And why should we? They make things much easier and better and faster.
- And you can be hundreds of times more creative with them.
- And calculate anything more quickly and accurately and store much more.
- I'm just thinking of all the people who have **trouble** understanding how they work.

- But it's always been like that with new things, especially if you didn't **grow up with** them.
- I'm in the business, and even I have trouble sometimes **keeping up with** the innovations and new technology.

age: *époque*
linked up: *relié*
household: *bien connu*
trouble: *difficulté*
to grow up with sth: *grandir avec qqch*
to keep up with sth: *suivre*

Los Angeles I Rodeo Drive



Alan et son amie mènent grand train. Dans les boutiques de luxe de Rodeo Drive, dans les grands restaurants ou bien aux Bahamas, ils sont comme chez eux !

- There must be loads of stores down on Rodeo Drive where I can get a suitable **snazzy** outfit for the celebration.
- I know you're going to look around for ages and you're going to go home with nothing in your hands.
- Well I just hate trying on clothes for hours and they're not my size or not good quality or look stupid.
- I tell you what, go wearing just a long tie. That would be different.
- Yeah, and everyone can have a good laugh at me.
- Well you have to **attract attention** to yourself somehow.
- I can't imagine how you manage to get all the attention.
- It's because I'm **bubbly**, open, **witty** and friendly, and I'm an understanding person, I can listen.
- The only thing is, I don't see when you get the chance to listen.
- Yeah, all right, I know I talk a lot too.
- I guess that's sometimes more **tedious** than shopping for clothes, right? Well I don't mind, quite the opposite.
- Better than dating someone who's a complete **bore** and says nothing!
- Like my last girlfriend. That was about as exciting as watching paint dry!

- What I like about you is that you're cool, calm and collected, and you have a great dry sense of humor. Anyway, go in there and buy yourself a nice jacket.
- Why don't we just go for dinner instead? Since I'm not buying anything, I can pay for it. We can be at Rizzi's Wine Bar in half an hour. Does that sound good?
- Sure, sounds great, and with the saved money we just have time for you to buy me a ticket to the Bahamas on the way.
- How did you know I wanted to take you on a trip to the Bahamas?
- Because you're as white as a **sheet** and I need some blue water and white sand. And if you leave your **planner** lying around, what do you expect?
- It'll be a surprise for me if I ever get to surprise you!

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snazzy: *chic*
to attract attention: *attirer l'attention*
bubbly: *plein de vitalité*
witty: *plein d'esprit*
tedious: *fatigant*
bore: *raseur*
sheet: *drap*
planner: *agenda*
